

## Army alert as fuel strike nears

Troops have been put on alert to go into oil refineries and depots if the tanker drivers decide to strike from Monday. A state of emergency would be declared. Oil company executives have expressed alarm at what they see as manipulation of the drivers' voting figures by the Transport and General Workers' Union. Page 2

## Anglo-Irish pact under attack

The agreement on an Anglo-Irish council was attacked when the Irish and British Prime Ministers reported to their MPs. The Rev Ian Paisley, Democratic Unionist leader, walked out of the Commons shouting that Mrs Thatcher was a traitor. In the Daily Mail, the pact was described as a betrayal. The pact was signed by Mrs Thatcher and Mr Haughey. Page 2, 4

## New threat to cricket tour

A new threat to England's cricket tour of India emerged yesterday when a High Court judge in Bangalore, the venue for the second Test match, was asked to revoke the entry visas of Boycott and Cook because of their sporting links with South Africa. The writ was demanded by the Civil Rights Vigilance Group of Bangalore.

## Foot attempts to unite factions

Mr Michael Foot, in an attempt to unite the warring factions inside the Labour Party, has appointed Mr Wedgwood Benn and Mr Denis Healey to front bench positions. He also said he wanted to deal effectively with inflation by the Militant Tendency. Page 3

## Jurors asked about race

Seventy potential jurors at the Central Criminal Court were asked if they supported right-wing or left-wing parties before a jury was selected to try four West Indians on charges connected with the death of a white man. Page 6

## Oil groups seek price cut

Shell, BP, Esso and other oil companies are pressing the British National Oil Corporation to think again on its recent price increases, which took the Forties Field crude price to \$36.50 a barrel at a time of declining world demand. Page 15

## Autonomy talks resume in Cairo

The fundamental question of the control of water resources in the occupied West Bank will be excluded from the talks on Palestinian autonomy which resumed in Cairo yesterday. Both sides have decided to postpone discussion of this most delicate issue in an effort to break the 17-month deadlock in the autonomy talks. Page 8

## Landslide for Trinidad party

The People's National Movement, which had been in power for a quarter of a century, won a landslide victory in the 1981 general election in Trinidad. It crushed what had been regarded as the toughest electoral challenge it had yet faced. Page 8

## Karpov a game from victory

Viktor Korchnoi, challenging Anatoly Karpov for the world chess championship, resigned the fourteenth game on the forty-sixth move. Karpov now leads the series 5-2, and needs one more win to retain the title. Page 8

## McEnroe keeps fans waiting

John McEnroe refused to play, as scheduled, on the first day of the Benson and Hedges tennis tournament at Wembley. However, he was described as "the innocent party" by the tournament director who had reorganised the programme. Page 21

Leader page, 11  
Letters: On life and death, from Mr Roger Gray, QC, and others; Mr Foot at Cenotaph, from Dr Aileen Ribeiro, and others

Leading articles: Trade union law; Indian loan  
Obituary, page 12  
Vice-Admiral Sir Guy Wyatt, Mr Jim Dear

Features, pages 9, 10  
The middle in Britain's big game union; England's oldest corner in Rome; Why new hearts are not enough

# BL tea break strike given backing by Duffy

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent

The uneasy peace that has prevailed in BL car plants since Sir Michael Edwards's victory over the unions last week was shattered yesterday when a dispute over tea breaks erupted into a strike at the big Longbridge car plant in Birmingham. The strike was immediately given official support by Mr Terence Duffy's Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

In a show of militancy that took managers and other unions by complete surprise, Mr Duffy also served warning on Ford that if shopfloor opposition to the company's offer of a 4.5 per cent pay rise turned into the all-out strike threatened for next Tuesday week the AUEW would give that official support also.

It was the speed of his intervention in the latest BL strike that provided the biggest shock. The strike by 1,800 workers on the Metro and Mini day and night assembly track was only 24 hours old and, until his intervention, had involved relatively few members of the union. By last night production of the two cars was at a standstill with a further 4,500 workers laid off. The company said that thousands more will be sent home if the strike continues for a few days.

Temper already on short fuse exploded when the Longbridge management tried to implement an 11-minute cut in the time allowed for daily tea breaks, from a total of 51 minutes to 40. It took that natural action after the breakdown of talks with the unions on the introduction of the 39-hour week agreed between the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions and the Engineering Employers' Federation. BL has withdrawn from the negotiation, but has said it will honour the deal.

Announcing official backing for AUEW members on strike at Longbridge, Mr Duffy said: "We are not going to tolerate any company, including BL, trying to reduce the 39-hour week. We do not approve of any company abolishing the tea break to make up time after conceding the 39-hour week."

The Transport and General Workers' Union, which represents 55 per cent of BL's manual workers and the bulk of those taking part in the present strike, has not even considered making the strike official at this stage. Mr Brian Mathers, the union's senior Midlands official, said: "There has been no approach for official backing. It is not in our sympathies."

BL met its joint union negotiators yesterday. Mr Duffy said that the company was not prepared to make any concession on the tea break. He said that the company was not prepared to make any concession on the tea break.

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## The cost of a wife is £204 a week

By Lorna Bourke

The commercial rate for a housewife's work is now £204 a week, equivalent to the salary of an Army sergeant major, a bishop, or a fire chief, a recent survey conducted for the insurers, Legal & General, says.

Even costing a wife's time out at £204 a week, or £10,600 a year, her work is still valued at not much more than £2 an hour, the absolute minimum paid for domestic help. This is for a seven-day-a-week job and 12 to 14 hours a day.

Dumies priced by Legal & General include cooking, child minding, waitressing, dishwashing, driving, shopping, cleaning, laundering, sewing, and other activities all based on employment agencies, average fees for different jobs.

Inflation has taken its toll. A similar survey conducted for the company in 1975 costed out a woman's time at £71 a week. Although the statistics provoked considerable controversy at the time, there is little evidence to suggest that families took the lesson to heart and insular the wife's life.

A chart compiled by Gallup, which conducted the survey, shows that the housewife is fully employed for seven days a week. Her potential earnings reached a peak of £35.86 on a Sunday, when she works only six and a half hours with an earnings potential of £13.

Of the married couples surveyed, a surprisingly large proportion of husbands did not see that their wives might face financial problems if anything happened to them. Half felt this would not be much of a problem or no problem at all, and 12 per cent admitted they did not know.

The survey is designed to highlight the potential disastrous effects on the husband's finances if the wife should die, obliging the husband to hire domestic help as a replacement. Few husbands think of insuring their wife's life, and Legal & General is offering an insurance scheme to employers rather than approaching the individual employees.

The scheme offers employers cover of up to £50,000 per employee at an average cost of around 0.4 per cent of total payroll.

Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the GLC, who personally instituted the "Pares Fair" policy, said that he was confident the decision would be reversed in the House of Lords.

We are in the middle of a three-round fight. It is who wins the final that matters, he said. Pending the appeal, Kely to be heard in the Lords as a matter of urgency within the next fortnight, London Transport's fares will remain unchanged through technically illegal London Transport told the court it would take up to 14 weeks to make the administrative arrangements to alter fares.

The Court of Appeal decision, however, could be appealed to the House of Lords (London) Act 1969, has no immediate implications for subsidised transport systems in other parts of the country.

It does raise the possibility that the Government is likely to announce higher national insurance contributions before the end of the month. This could be particularly heavily on the higher-paid by raising the upper threshold on which the contribution is levied. At present, National Insurance contributions are only paid on the first £200 of weekly earnings, with £27 of that being exempt.

The statement could well be seen as a warning to the Government to make announcements on the economy. There is no prospect of a decision on British membership of the European Monetary System until well into next year, probably at Budget time.

The Government is also making such slow progress in deciding public spending plans for next year that it will probably have to postpone an announcement of its forecasts for the economy until December, breaking a tradition that this is published in November.

The Chancellor will probably be questioned by members of the Commons Treasury Select Committee as the progress the Government is making in drawing up an autumn statement which would effectively rewrite the Government's medium-term financial strategy and take Britain into the European Monetary System are now effectively ruled out.

The delay over a decision about joining EMS is caused partly because of difficulties over the rate at which the pound would go in and partly because there are still doubts about whether this is the best way to aim for greater exchange rate stability. Any decision will have to wait until a new version of



## Woman to lead fight against Métro crime

Mlle Nadine Joly, aged 29 (above), has been chosen to head a new 450-strong police force that will keep order on the Métro (our Paris Correspondent writes).

M Jean Perier, the Prefect of the Paris police, made the appointment, with effect from the beginning of this month. Mlle Joly has already served

five years as a police inspector. She was born in Courmas, in the Marne department. The increase in assaults and hooliganism on the Paris Métro prompted the Prefect of Police to reinforce the existing anti-gang police on patrol in the stations, corridors and trains. In 1980, 803 attacks on Métro users

were recorded in Paris. The Prefect decided to step up security measures and Mlle Joly is now in charge of 286 "underground" policemen and two squadrons of mobile police. In all, she has about 450 under her orders. She directs her brigade from a desk at police headquarters, with the help of a detailed map of the Métro.

## GLC faces chaos as Denning rules rates levy is illegal

By Robin Young

A unanimous decision by Lord Denning and two other judges in the Court of Appeal yesterday quashed the Greater London Council's supplementary rate precept which was to have financed the cheaper fares introduced last month on London Transport buses and Tubes. The precept was to have raised £12.5m.

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Money supply, page 15

## Heseltine firm on referendum

By Philip Webster

Political Reporter

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, gave a warning to Conservative backbenchers no hint last night that the Government will give way to their pressure and weaken its proposal to compel local authorities to hold referendums before levying rates above a Government fixed ceiling.

Called to explain his plans to the backbench environment committee Mr Heseltine, after speaking and answering questions for more than an hour and a half, gave the impression that the Cabinet has decided to make no concessions in the hope that opposition from inside Conservative ranks will fade away.

This may be mistaken. Mr Reginald Prentice, MP for Darnley, and Mr Alan Heseltine, MP for Saffron Walden, added their voices yesterday to those who mean to oppose the Local Government Finance Bill when it comes up for second reading.

Mr Prentice, a former minister, said in a letter to his local party: "I feel bound to oppose

Continued on back page, col 3

## Howe 'tax' changes to fall on better off

By David Blake, Economics Editor

The Government is likely to announce higher national insurance contributions before the end of the month. This could be particularly heavily on the higher-paid by raising the upper threshold on which the contribution is levied. At present, National Insurance contributions are only paid on the first £200 of weekly earnings, with £27 of that being exempt.

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## Foot promises to fight 'damage of extremists'

By George Clark

Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Opposition, yesterday reasserted his determination to try to undo the damage done by the infiltration of extremists inside the Labour Party, giving a role on the front bench to Mr Denis Healey and Mr Wedgwood Benn, as part of the healing process.

More significantly, he said he wanted the party to deal effectively with the damage being done by the infiltration of extremists belonging to the Militant Tendency. He described them as "a pestilential nuisance".

If he can persuade the party's national executive to take prompt action against the Trotskyist entryists, whom Mr James Callaghan, the former leader, has said are leading the party to disaster and alienating the support of Labour voters, Mr Foot will have some influence on moderate, mainstream Labour MPs who are now under threat of not being re-elected or are considering retiring or switching to the Social Democratic Party.

But in an interview on BBC radio with Sir Robin Day, he conceded that it would not be easy. "It is very difficult to know how you take effective action against them [the Militant Tendency]", he said.

"You could expel them," suggested Sir Robin. "It is not easy to expel them, particularly when they are not members of a particular organisation," Mr Foot replied. "However, I am not prejudging this question. This matter came up at the organisation committee of the party yesterday on the basis of a letter sent by members of the Militant Tendency."

Mr Foot said that the matter is another question... but it is still possible for the executive to return to that subject if they wish to look at aspects of the Militant Tendency of others who may be involved in these matters.

He rejected Mr Callaghan's suggestion that the militant Trotskyists were leading the party to disaster. He thought they were a pestilential nuisance, but how one dealt with a nuisance was another question.

"I want to deal with it effectively, so that, having spent a considerable time over the diversion on the deputy leadership election over the past year, we do not spend next year arguing about the expulsion of the Militant Tendency or the expulsion of others."

"Indeed, I still hope that I can be the leader of a party in which there are no expulsions because I remember that expulsions, whether of the right or of the left, can do great damage to the party."

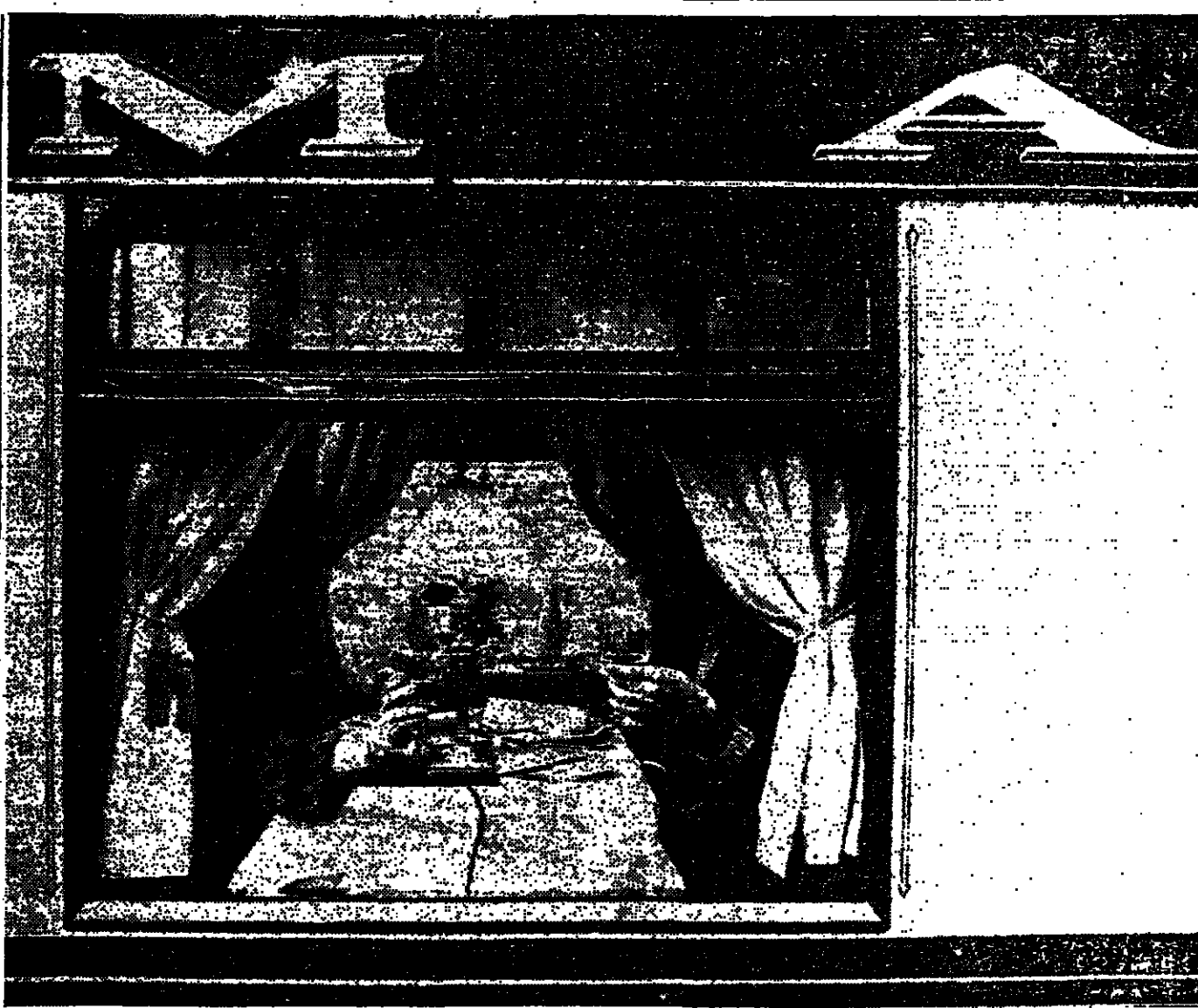
Earlier in the interview, Mr Foot said he had not the slightest intention of giving up the leadership, despite the promptings of newspapers. So long as he was the elected leader, he would do his best to discharge his duties.

When asked why Mr Benn had been chosen as front bench speaker in last night's energy debate, Mr Foot said Mr Benn had considerable knowledge about the nation's energy problems. The whole Shadow Cabinet, "without a single whisper of discontent", had agreed with the suggestion that Mr Benn should speak.

A leading article in *The Times*, in which Mr Foot was likened to a "pilot on a flight deck of his plane who has not been told that a hijack is taking place", was put to him.

Mr Foot replied: *The Times* has never been the best qualified to advise me how to lead the Labour Party.

"They were not very good on appeasement either," Sir Robin said. "And not very good on appeasement. I am grateful for your prompting," Mr Foot said.



Passengers on the newly-restored Orient Express drink a toast to the success of the new service

## Dreams of the Orient

The Orient Express is back in business, and the public were afforded a glimpse yesterday of the anachronistic delights in store for them when a smattering, at least, of the legendary London-to-Venice service resumes next year (Tony Samstons writes).

Four, luxury Pullman carriages and a baggage brake have been restored to their decadent Thirties grandeur by Venice Simphon-Orient-Express Ltd

and are to figure prominently in the twice-weekly service from London to Folkestone and then, via Sealink, onward from Boulogne.

But legends do not come cheap. The 23-hour journey will cost £250, excluding meals.

The faces at the window yesterday belong to Miss Sara Jordan (above, left) and Miss Kim Burgess. Both are students.



## Hot water from below ground on tap soon

By Pearce Wright

Science Editor

Hot water from an underground reservoir, formed about 20 million years ago in a strata of sandstone 6,000 ft beneath the southern counties of England, will begin to flow to the surface in a few days.

Provided the temperature and the chemistry of the water conforms to predictions of the geologists, construction will start on the first geothermal power station in Britain.

The borehole from which the hot water will be extracted is in the middle of Southampton. The water will be pumped at about six gallons a second through a heat exchanger to transfer the energy to purer water supplying a district heating service.

The first buildings to be linked to the scheme will be at the civic centre and city swimming baths. But shops, offices, hotels, light industry and recreational facilities in a new development will be the main customers.

The aquifer being tapped is estimated to stretch from Poole in the west to Brighton in the east, bounded by Winchester in the north. Hence there is optimism about developing the reservoir as a significant source of supply.

## Broadmoor escaper demands his release

By Lucy Hodges

Alan Reeve, the convicted killer who escaped from Broadmoor top-security hospital three months ago, wants the Home Secretary to announce his release in view of last week's judgment by the European Court of Human Rights.

In a letter to a reporter on *The Times*, posted in London on Monday, and signed by him and his fiancée, Patricia Ford, with whom he is on the run, Reeve says that the European judges' decision vindicates their action "insofar as it recognizes at last implicitly that we behaved as good citizens".

*The Times* has forwarded the letter to Thames Valley Police.

The European Court judgment, which is expected to be written into law during the passage of the Mental Health (Amendment) Bill through Parliament, says that all restricted patients should be able to appeal for release to a court or tribunal. At present the Home Secretary decides on their release. It also says that there has to be reliable medical evidence that a person is of unsound mind in order to be detained.

The Home Office declined yesterday to comment on Reeve's letter.

The letter, which carries a SW1 postmark, is one of several Reeve has sent recently to people he was in contact with before his escape.

In their latest letter Reeve and Miss Ford say that the Home Secretary's refusal to authorize release, against the advice of medical and nursing staff at Broadmoor, is an example of political bias and inhuman disregard of a person's life.

The couple said that the Home Secretary should withdraw arrest warrants for them.

Detective Sergeant Michael Cassidy, of Thames Valley CID which is organizing the hunt for Reeve, said that the search had gone quite dead.

## BEER STRIKE OVER

A strike of 460 draymen employed by Bass North, which closed 300 public houses and laid off thousands of staff in the Yorkshire and Humberside area, ended yesterday when they accepted the brewery's original wage offer of between £8.70 and £9.50 a week.

## Policeman bailed

A police chief inspector accused of causing criminal damage to a telephone box, was remanded on bail by magistrates at Staines, Surrey, yesterday. Leslie Matthews-Stroud, aged 47, of London Road, Staines, will appear in court next month.

## Crosby by-election

## Williams attacks tigers of left

From Anthony Bevins Political Correspondent

Mrs Shirley Williams said yesterday that Labour's right wing could be wiped out of existence by the "tigers" of the hard left.

The Social Democratic-Liberal Alliance candidate for the Crosby by-election told a press conference: "I am not sure there will be a Labour right-wing when it comes to the next election."

Moderate Labour MPs were leaving or being ousted from the party at staggering speed. "We may get a Labour Party which is in fact a new Marxist party by the time the next election comes."

She welcomed the refreshing left-wing candour of Mr John Baskhouse, the Labour candidate, who has declared his commitment to a package of Bennite policies. "He is a great symbol of what is happening," she said.

She said yesterday was the first anniversary of Mr Foot's election as leader of the party, but she could not wish many happy returns. "One might describe his first year as a whistlestop on the way to disaster."

Listing the nails driven into Labour's coffin, Mrs Williams recalled that the Labour conference had confirmed left-wing policies that Mr Benn and Mr Heffer had been re-elected to powerful chairmanships on the national executive, that an investigation of the Militant tendency had been ruled out, and that extremists had been chosen as candidates over moderate MPs in Bradford and Bermondsey.

She also said that the trickle of Labour MPs refusing to stand for re-election as candidates had grown to a flood. "The straight truth is that they are not prepared to

be talking dummies, with strings pulled by the Militant tendency."

Mrs Williams turned to Mr Foot's "astounding" decision to allow Mr Wedgwood Benn to make yesterday's front bench speech in the Commons on energy.

Mr Benn had been picked for such a big opportunity on the eve of the forthcoming Shadow Cabinet elections. That, she said, was one more sign of Mr Foot's determination to curtail favour with the left, "which is like patting a tiger on the head, and that is exactly what Mr Foot has been doing."

Mrs Williams added: "The tiger responds by gobbling up yet another moderate MP."

She said the party was increasingly being hijacked by the hard left, many of them new members. "They want to join in the final feast of the tigers."

Asked what would happen if the alliance held the balance of power after the next election, she said that if Labour went far left and the Conservatives failed to change their policies, the alliance would win outright.

If the Conservatives swung towards the centre, the alliance would be most unlikely to support a left-wing Labour government.

She said: "If the Conservative Party changed substantially, there might be a balance of power situation, and that would make the Conservatives a party we could probably work with."

Mrs Williams said that if such an administration agreed to pursue moderate consensus policies, it was possible that the alliance would maintain that government on power beyond the fundamental deliv-

ery of proportional representation.

Another sign of cross-currents at Crosby came yesterday when a card-carrying member of Crosby's Conservative Association punctured the party's claim that there was overwhelming by-election backing for Mrs Thatcher's policies.

Mr John Butcher the Conservative candidate, said in a press statement yesterday that a public meeting on Monday had shown overwhelming endorsement of government strategy. "I have not yet met a voter who has told me face-to-face that he is switching," he said.

In fact, Monday's meeting in the heart of a Conservative ward disclosed marked criticism of the Government's approach to the economy. There were indications from the platform of the party's private concern that Crosby could inflict a humiliating vote of censure on the Government.

One who criticized the government at the Monday meeting was Mr Alastair Burley, who runs a small industrial business on the borders of the constituency. He said yesterday that he had voted Conservative for more than thirty years and was still a paid-up party member.

But he added: "I would not support the Conservative Party now because it has become so right-wing under Mrs Thatcher. She is a most able woman, but her outlook is not my outlook. She is taking us back to the clothe-cap years of the 1930s."

Mr Burley, who served for six years on the CBI council, explained: "I do not think this Government's monetarist policies will work."

## Injury benefit plan aimed at long-term disabled

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Radical changes in the industrial injuries scheme to concentrate more cash help on the long-term severely disabled at the expense of those suffering from less serious injuries were outlined in a White Paper yesterday.

The main improvements would come from extending the present special hardship allowance to more industrially disabled people and raising its present maximum level from £19.32 a week to £48.30.

The main losers would be the 548,000 people who claim injury benefit each year. That is to be abolished under the Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill next year. At present the benefit is paid at £2.75 a week, more than sickness benefit, a differential that has not changed in cash terms since 1967.

In addition, the White Paper proposes to withdraw the unemployment supplement, now paid to 300 people at a weekly rate of £28.35 a week, to end the hospital treatment allowance paid to 3,000 people a year, and to withdraw the special hardship allowance from people over retirement age except for those pensioners already receiving it when the change is made.

The White Paper makes it clear that the main proposals for improving industrial injury compensation are open to discussion, and comments are being invited up to next March.

Those proposals are concerned mainly with the future of the special hardship allowance, now paid to 447,000 people on top of disablement benefit because they cannot return to their original jobs and cannot follow alternative employment with equivalent earnings.

The White Paper proposes that the allowances should be renamed "reduced earnings allowance", cover half the earnings losses up to a much higher figure, be extended to the very severely disabled and be made independent from disablement benefit. In addition, the new allowance would be increased in line with movements in earnings.

The White Paper also proposes to bring payment of disablement benefit forward to 15 weeks after the injury, instead of 26 at present.

*Reform of the Industrial Injuries Scheme, Command Paper 8402 (Stationery Office, £3.05).*

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## From yesterday's later editions

## CAMBRIDGE BACKS THE LADY

A motion at the Cambridge Union calling for stricter laws on obscenity was carried by 357 votes to 191. Mrs Mary Whitehouse was the principal speaker for the motion, and the main opposer was Mr Victor Lowmes, former chairman of the Playboy Organisation in Britain.

## Combating racism

The formation of special anti-racist police squads, as proposed by the Joint Committee against Racism, is not favoured by Mr Whitlaw, Home Secretary. Instead he recommends police monitoring of such attacks and improved training.

## Complaint upheld

Mr Cecil Clothier, the Health Service Commissioner (Ombudsman) upheld a complaint by a patient who was refused a false breast after an operation because the consultant surgeon thought it would be too expensive to the health service. The surgeon was reprimanded.









## What is Whitehall up to behind your back?

There's some very worrying legislation about to creep in and out of Parliament. The idea is to take away your Local Authority's power to levy rates. If you have rates (and who doesn't), you could be forced into believing its good news. That's what Whitehall is relying on. But think. Without money your council is without power. It can't make decisions. It can't go against Whitehall. Even if you want it to on certain issues. That's the value of your local council. It can check excessive control of local affairs by any Government. Remember after a general election the Government doesn't have to be nice for five years. When you come to us with your problems our hands will be tied. We'll both come up against this innocent looking law. And like all laws, just try arguing with it. It won't matter if your local council knows the roads are bad (he lives there). It won't matter if the local school is closing (he'll probably have children there). It won't matter if the old people's home is overcrowded. There will be no point appealing to us. No point in attending council meetings. In fact there will be no real point in electing councillors at all. As things are, our doors are open. Whitehall will stay closed. Governments ask you to give them your vote when it suits them. Make no mistake. With this legislation, so far as local decisions are concerned, they might as well take your right to vote away.

## Watch out. Whitehall has plans for your local elections.

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## Whitehall's new idea for dealing with local questions.

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# Why we're running these advertisements.

In recent weeks we've been trying to warn the public about Whitehall's proposed rating legislation.

Everybody dislikes rate increases. So Whitehall's proposals may sound attractive.

But if they become law, the consequences could be serious.

Whitehall would control local rates. It would be able to imprint the ideas of any central government on local policies.

Local authorities would become powerless to make local decisions.

Even though they know best what local problems are.

As it is, councillors are aware of the needs of the area they serve because they live there. Educate their children there.

And are always open to approach, or reproach, from their ratepayers.

They are elected to their positions irrespective of which party holds the reins in Westminster.

And historically have had the right to disagree with central policies.

Local authorities have been able to check the excesses of the

Government in power.

But now this moderating influence is in danger of being removed.

Why?

Simply to penalise a handful of local authorities who have not met the spending limits imposed on them by Whitehall.

Most have managed to make the severe cuts asked of them.

Even though central government has actually increased its spending while Local Authorities have been tightening their belts.

The Public Expenditure White Paper (March 1981) shows that since 1975 Central Government expenditure has gone up by 8%. Local Government expenditure has dropped by 20%.

The cunning part of the proposed legislation is in Whitehall's idea to force referenda on Local Authorities before they implement any policies they might need to.

It would seem fair, and democratic.

Except that it will cost millions of pounds of rate-payers' money.

Except that it undercuts the mandate given local councillors by the rate-payers who voted them into office to pursue those self-same

policies. Without reference to any central authority.

Except that the wording of any referendum would be decided by Whitehall.

And except for the fact that no government has ever gone to the people before hiking our taxes up.

We believe that if Whitehall gets its way with the new legislation, doors that were once open will become closed.

And that by consolidating power at the centre now, Whitehall will be preparing the ground for radical changes to our democratic system.

Perhaps in five or ten years.

When there are new governments in control.

We have been forced to advertise our case since we believe that Whitehall has purposely been diverting attention away from the real issues.

Before these proposals are made law, we think they should be debated.

In public.

Write to your M.P. Speak out now.

Help keep local affairs local.

**KEEP IT local**

\*CMND 8175



## 70 would-be jurors are asked about race views

Seventy men and women called for jury service crowded together in a court at the Central Criminal Court yesterday and were asked by a judge to express their racial or political views.

The unusual jury selection process was sanctioned by Judge Edward Clarke, QC, after consultation with lawyers in the case of four West Indian men on charges arising out of the killing of a white man in Hackney, London, on May 8.

All outsiders were asked to leave the body of the court to make way for the would-be jurors.

Then Judge Clarke told them that at the request of the prosecution and defence he wanted to say to them: "If any of you hold strong views against black people or in support of parties of the extreme right like the National Front or the British Movement, or the extreme left like the Socialist Workers' Party or the Anti-Nazi League you should, under those circumstances, disqualify yourselves by saying you should not wish to be considered for this jury."

The judge added: "That does not mean you can go home. It means you will serve on another jury where those considerations do not apply."

The judge asked for a show of hands for those who considered their views too extreme for the case. Four white men raised their arms and were asked to leave the court. A jury of 10 white and two black people were then sworn in to try the case, which will start on Thursday. Defence counsel objected to nine potential jurors and one was objected to by the prosecution.

The four defendants are Newton, 20, a decorator of Olinda Road, Stoke Newington, Ian Henry, aged 20, of Meridian Walk, Tottenham, Michael Clarke, aged 20, of Scarborough Road, Leytonstone, and Orville Johnson, aged 20, of no fixed address.

Mr Rose pleaded not guilty to the murder of Anthony Donnelly, aged 22, a labourer of Darnley Road, Hackney. All four pleaded not guilty to attempting to pervert the course of justice by making false statements to detectives investigating the murder.

### CLOCKS HAUL

Thieves escaped with clocks and watches valued at £17,500 after breaking into the shop of Evans and Evans at Alresford, Hampshire, yesterday.

## Building society secretary jailed for £150,000 theft

From Our Correspondent, Derby

A building society secretary on a salary of £6,000 spent hundreds of pounds on entertaining guests at his £58,000 country house, it was said at Derby Crown Court yesterday.

Roy Ward, who was jailed for three years on theft and forgery charges, included among his guests the directors of the society from which he was regularly stealing large sums of money.

Judge Hopkins told him: "I just do not understand why the directors, who knew the way you were living, did not realize there was something very suspicious about it and take steps. That might have ended your dishonest career at an early stage."

Mr Ward, aged 52, of White Carr Lane, Brackenfield, Derbyshire, started stealing small amounts from his employers in 1972. By the time

## Entitlement to sick pay cut

By Pat Healy

Social Services Correspondent

Fewer low-paid employees will be entitled to the full rate of employers' statutory sickness pay of £37 a week under the Social Security and Housing Benefit Bill, published on Monday.

The Bill allows the full rate to be paid to people earning £60 a week or more, instead of £45, as originally indicated. Those earning less than £60 will receive the lower payment of £25 a week, but the Bill requires both amounts to be reviewed annually, in line with prices.

Employers' sick pay will replace, with two flat rate sums, the present National Insurance Sickness Benefit for the first eight weeks of sickness from April 1983. The Bill indicated that the National Insurance Fund would save £385m in a full year from benefit not paid out, but lose £565m because employers would be able to deduct from their own contributions to the fund.

The Bill will also abolish injury benefit, and make sickness pay subject to tax and National Insurance contributions. The Department of Health and Social Security expects to save 3,000 jobs under the new sick pay scheme, while the Inland Revenue will need 125 more staff.

The Bill disclosed that the new benefit will mean an increase of local authority staff of between 1,500 and 1,600.



Crisis at Christmas: Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary launching a campaign for the single homeless at the Mission Day Centre, Whitechapel Road, East London yesterday. With him is one of the old people for whom the charity is seeking aid.

### Peace group protests

## Nuclear HQ for National Trust land

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The increasingly vocal peace movement has declared war on a Ministry of Defence plan to excavate National Trust land in the Chiltern hills to build an underground operations centre for the RAF. It will be hardened against nuclear attack.

The centre, on land near High Wycombe in Buckinghamshire, is intended to replace "Bomber" Harris's room, still in use near by as part of Nato defences.

Mr Benedict Rubbra, who lives a mile from the intended site and is a member of the Wycombe peace council, says that those who support the National Trust's aims are being betrayed by its intention to surrender land to the ministry without a public inquiry.

The centre will command RAF operations throughout the world, except those of the tactical air force in West Germany. It would be an obvious wartime target.

Mr Rubbra claims that, when completed, the new bunker will be topped by a 35ft mound covering 9 acres in an enclosure of about 11 acres, surrounded by two 6ft 6in security fences, one with lights. During the construction there will be up to

75 lorries a day, he says, for between four and 10 years, travelling through two National Trust villages, Bradenham and West Wycombe.

Part of the controversy surrounds access to the land through Grim's Dyke, an ancient monument which runs for several miles through the Chilterns.

The Ministry of Defence says that only the width of a road could be affected, and that any damage would be made good. The National Trust says that a hardened earthen track already crosses the dyke; the gap would be widened to provide temporary access during construction.

The Ministry of Defence said yesterday that villagers who were worried about lorry traffic had been told that no decision had yet been taken on the route.

The mound would rise to about 30ft at its highest point. Top soil would be replaced over the site, it would be reseeded and trees would be planted.

Mr Julian Pridoux, National Trust director for the Thames and Chiltern region, said the trust was approached in 1978 by the Ministry of Defence to lease 12 acres of land at Hollybush

Farm, near RAF High Wycombe. It did not form part of the important valley landscape and was well screened by woodland.

The county council had said that most of the roads leading to RAF High Wycombe were not capable of taking heavy lorries. The trust, with the ministry and local authorities, was exploring ways of bypassing Bradenham with a temporary access road.

"We do not know what the effect will be on the property at Bradenham or on the quality of life," the ministry had said the optimum period of construction would be five years.

Mr Pridoux said that the regional committee was not yet satisfied with some aspects of the proposals and had no intention of settling the matter until they were reached.

The proposed doubling of the size of a missile test area in the Western Isles has drawn protests from Skye and Lochalsh District Council.

The Ministry of Defence wants to extend the 10 square miles restricted fishing in the inner sound of Rascay to prevent damage to costly hydrophones fixed to the seabed.

The range is used for the test firing of missiles by submarines, for research and development of heavyweight torpedoes with acoustic guidance, and for the testing of the air-dropped Stingray missile.

Mr William Nicolson, chairman of the district council, said: "These people are going back on their word to us. I have been at several meetings in past years with ministry officials and Royal Navy representatives and every time we have agreed to more measures for this range we have been told no further extensions or restrictions would be wanted."

A senior navy officer at base headquarters in Kyle of Lochalsh said the extension would tidy up the range limits at present irregular areas in mid-channel, to cover the full width of the channel.

The Home Office published a free pamphlet yesterday answering criticisms of civil defence.

Intended to be available from local authorities, police stations, and libraries, the pamphlet explains the need for deep bunkers to protect key personnel in nuclear attacks. It says that millions of lives could be saved by civil defence.

## Restrictions on tattooists are ordered

By Nicholas Timmins

The Government is to give local authorities powers to regulate the activities of tattooists, acupuncturists and ear-piercers because of outbreaks of hepatitis in recent years.

Measures to that effect have been drafted by the Department of Health and Social Security for inclusion in a proposed local authorities Bill.

The increased popularity of tattooing and piercing, not only of the ears but other parts of the body, has led to outbreaks of hepatitis where proper hygiene standards were not observed. The risk comes when a customer is a carrier of the disease and unsterilized needles are reused, or from eyes into which the infected needles have been placed.

In 1978 and 1979 several hepatitis cases were traced to a tattooist and a piercer, not only of the ears but other parts of the body, has led to outbreaks of hepatitis where proper hygiene standards were not observed. The risk comes when a customer is a carrier of the disease and unsterilized needles are reused, or from eyes into which the infected needles have been placed.

Heatitis is highly infectious, one cubic centimetre of blood theoretically containing enough virus to infect 12,500 people. In most parts of the country, however, anyone can set up as a tattooist, ear-piercer or acupuncturist without regulation, unaware of the infection risks.

Recently, the Greater London Council and local authorities in the West Midlands and South Yorkshire took powers to register practitioners, but in each case an Act of Parliament was needed. The cost has deterred some other local authorities from acting on the new measure which would give all of them the regulatory powers required.

Dr Noag, who yesterday welcomed the decision, said he was preparing a code of practice for acupuncturists.

## Doctors told to encourage disabled self-help groups

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

Doctors should stop criticising patients' associations and encourage all those suffering from chronic disabilities to seek counselling from fellow sufferers, Dr Charles Fletcher, a chest physician and former television doctor, said yesterday.

Dr Fletcher, a diabetic, Lady Masham of Ilton, a paraplegic, and Sir Peter Medawar, CH, a Nobel Prize winner and stroke victim, all gave moving personal accounts of coping with their disabilities at a Royal College of Physicians symposium in London.

Dr Fletcher said that doctors often showed little sympathy to their diabetic patients and kept them on unnecessarily strict regimes. By frequently checking his blood and urine sugar levels, he had found he could be fairly free with his diet and live a relatively normal life.

He said that patients' associations, which many doctors tend to run down, can be enormously helpful. The mother of a child diabetic had been told by her doctor there was no need to join the Diabetic Association because he could give her all the

## TV LICENCE PROTESTER SET FREE

A pensioner who chose to go to jail rather than pay a television licence has been released after an anonymous businessman paid his fine.

Len Walker, aged 67, was back at his home in Wilby Road, Drive, Malins, Leicestershire, last night after being released from Shrewsbury Prison. He had served two days of a 14-day term suspended on default of £24 fine made by magistrates at Wellington last August.

Mr Walker, a founder member of the Leicestershire branch of the British Pensioners and Trade Unions Action Association, had said he was making his protest on behalf of all Britain's pensioners who could not afford the cost of living on the present State pension.

Mr Harry Crompton, branch secretary, said: "This businessman has acted for the best motives, but he has rather knocked the wind out of our sails."

Len would have been quite happy to have served the full 14 days.

Later the charity, Task Force working with old people, called for the authorities to work towards free television licences for all pensioners.

## TEACHERS TO SEEK INDEX LINKED RISE

By Our Education Correspondent

Union leaders representing 450,000 teachers in England and Wales agreed yesterday to press for a pay increase linked to the rise in the cost of living over the past year; the annual inflation rate is at present 11.4 per cent.

Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers and leader of the Burnham committee, the national negotiating body on teachers' pay, said that there had been an overwhelming majority on the teachers' panel in favour of a claim based on the movement of the retail price index since their last pay rise in April 1981.

"We owe it to teachers to seek to do that, knowing the hardships that many are suffering and knowing also on the comparability of their salaries has been eroded," he said.

The teachers' panel also decided to press for the establishment of special machinery to determine teachers' pay in future on the basis of comparability with other professional groups, and for safeguards to protect teachers' salaries from the effects of the fall in the number of pupils in schools. A teacher's salary is based in part on school size.

## Nimeiry outlines recovery plan as Cabinet falls

Khartoum, Nov 10.—The dismissal of the Sudanese Government announced last night by President Gaafar Nimeiry, confirms a serious deterioration in the country's economy.

The President severely criticised the Government for a serious deterioration in production in the past few years. He announced a 12.5 per cent devaluation of the Sudanese pound, a 40 per cent increase in taxes on oil, a 10 per cent rise in taxes on imports and the abolition of subsidies on cooking oil, wheat and sugar. The measures were part of an 18-point economic recovery plan.

The subsidy on cooking oil is being dropped at once, and those for wheat and sugar phased out. Their abolition, when townships are suffering food shortages, could provoke unrest and have serious repercussions. The subsidies have been costing £500m a year.

The International Monetary Fund said they had to end, in return for aid of \$22m (£16m) as part of a 1982-83 "recovery" package. The government resisted at first but has had to submit.

The country also faces a public debt of \$3,000m. Western creditors in the Club of Paris agreed in 1979 to reschedule it, but experts consider it doubtful that Sudan can meet its first payments when they fall due.



President Nimeiry: Libya 'accused' of fomenting unrest.

Despite Sudan's agricultural and mineral potential, it is among the world's 25 poorest countries. Its gross national product has been stagnant since 1979. The chief export, cotton, earning \$180m last year, comes nowhere near covering even the oil bill, which has risen to \$480m. The serious trade deficit has worsened in the past few years, climbing from \$200m in 1972-73 to \$500m for the current fiscal year. President Nimeiry disclosed last night.

Some specialists see even that figure as optimistic, suggesting the deficit is \$700m.

Political crisis is nothing new for the regime which took power in 1969. It has faced down a number of attempted coups, the most serious was 1971 resulting in fierce repression of the Sudanese Communist Party.

The present crisis comes at a time when authorities here claim the country faces Libyan attempts at destabilisation. The Sudanese Government has accused Colonel Muammar Gaddafi of Libya of employing a fifth column of thousands of unregistered refugees from Chad, where Libyan troops moved in last year.

Since last July the Government has cracked down mercilessly on the Chadian refugees, in a "cleansing campaign" involving identity checks on nearly 15,000 people in Khartoum and its environs.

Before that, there was a big confrontation with the transport unions at the beginning of the summer, when they staged a lengthy railway strike which disrupted communications in Africa's largest country.

President Nimeiry is reported to have asked ministers to carry on dealing with everyday business until a new Administration can be appointed.—AFP.

## UN drive on pirates who raid boat people

From Neil Kelly

Bangkok, Nov 10

Nobody in his right mind would go to sea in the Gulf of Thailand, the United Nations refugee official said, pointing to new figures on boat piracy.

This year, according to the statistics, 355 Vietnamese refugees have been killed by pirates in the Gulf, 522 women refugees have been raped, and another 200 abducted. Only one refugee boat in five escaped the pirates.

Yet there was no sign that the pirates were content to boat refugees, the official said. More than 13,000 Vietnamese have reached the Thai coast this year.

The statistics are based entirely on the refugees' own reports. "In those circumstances," the official said, "reports do tend to be exaggerated, but we believe the overall picture is accurate enough."

Because piracy continues to flourish, the Bangkok office of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees is organizing a new campaign to curb it, at a cost of \$3.6m (about £1.9m) for six months. UNHCR officials say they believe the funds are readily available from foreign governments.

Not all the money will be spent at sea. The United Nations says the Thai police are taking action against known pirate communities in southern Thailand.

In some villages the men are sometimes heard boasting of having a good time with Vietnamese girls, according to international officials, who say the men are fishermen preying on the refugee boats. Many of these communities are too powerful and too well armed for the local police.

Their boats are often unregistered and therefore the authorities have no record of them. They go out without identification marks, a fact mentioned by most victims of pirate attacks.

With 50,000 fishing boats in the Gulf, over-fishing and related problems like pollution increase piracy as a livelihood.

Almost all pirates are fishermen who cannot earn a living legally. Ethnic animosities between Thai, Khmer and Vietnamese exacerbate the problem. The Thai authorities say that since the refugees, about 400 fishermen have been killed this year by other fishermen in the Gulf.

Refugees say some pirates do them more good than harm. After seeing the plight of refugees, some pirates give them food and water and send the refugees on their way. Others, after robbing and raping, have been known to give their victims food and other necessities.

Most casualties in the attacks drowned after pirates rammed their boats. However, 25 were individually murdered—shot, stabbed or thrown overboard.

## Letter from Taishan

### Big business below the sacred mountain

Having weathered the storms of the Red Guard mobs who smashed statues and defaced ancient inscriptions in 1966 and 1967, one of the sites traditionally considered the most sacred in China now faces another invasion—this time by foreign tourists.

German, Italian and Japanese visitors throng the guesthouse at the foot of Mount Tai, and some of them are prepared to face the gruelling climb of more than 3,000 steps to the summit and then spend the next week nursing their aching calves.

Tourism is big business in China these days, and Shandong province, where Mount Tai is located, has some of the most interesting venues—including the birthplace of Confucius—where one can call to mind the thousands of reputed descendants.

The mountain is famous for its temples and shrines, most of them, dedicated to the ancient Chinese religion of Daoism. It was sacred to the emperors of China whose official creed was Confucianism but who sometimes had themselves carried up the mountain in state with huge retinues.

The big temple at the foot of Mount Tai was one of the three places in China where it was considered most efficacious for the emperor to offer prayers for his heaven's blessing on the land and people. The temple was one of the historic sites which even the late Chou En-tai failed to seal off before the Red Guards charged in to smash anything thought typical of the feudal past.

But the Red Guards have not enjoyed a monopoly on iconoclasm. Just visible through a tiny peephole in the door of a storehouse at the temple, towering ever above the debris and discarded building materials stands a 10ft-high statue of the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung. It dominated the entrance to the temple during the Cultural Revolution period, which ended with his death in 1976. Now, clearly, nobody knows what to do with it.

At the risk of infringing traditional geomantic ideas about the sacredness of the mountain, the authorities are building a cable-car facility. Porters trot up the mountain with heavy loads of explosives hung on shoulder poles, for use in blasting a way clear.

To cope with the increased numbers of foreign tourists, the provincial government has opened a series of guesthouses, mostly used mainly for conferences of officials and party cadres. By Western standards, the comfort is sparse and the buildings poorly finished.

But to the Chinese these guesthouses seem like the lap of luxury, and the party-controlled media keep admonishing the cadres not to turn conferences into self-indulgent holidays. Chels

turn out famous Shandong dishes, especially fish, and a variety of steaming breads and excellent wholemeal rolls.

Service is another matter. Chinese waiters and waitresses are taught to regard meal service as a disciplined affair, in which the diners arrive in a group at the appointed hour, eat what is put in front of them and are glad of it.

The constant demands of foreign tourists—"bring some salt; give us some butter; take that away and warm it!"—can induce, first, astonishment, then surliness and passivity on the part of some waiters. Others, let it be said, regard nothing as too much trouble to keep the foreigners happy.

Sadly employed locally to escort the foreigners often behave like kindergarten teachers—physically pushing their charges higher and higher and fussing like hens when anyone dawdles or straggles.

Most tourists love a market and the rural fairs in Shandong are particularly lively. The visitors' clamorous demands to stop for photographs and bargaining may embarrass the guides, who have to follow a strict time schedule and who may not have permission to stop along the way. The eccentric taste of foreigners for the crude products of the countryside is at last being recognized as innocuous.

People in the larger towns no longer mob foreigners out of curiosity, but in the rural areas one can hear the most frank observations about one's personal appearance and general strangeness.

Getting around involved definite risks. The roads are surprisingly good, but the jagged paths which are used to ferry tourists around become deadly weapons in the hands of many drivers, who have not learnt the most basic elements of rural safety, and put all their faith in the horn. I have a couple of small scars from this trip, and generally accidents are much more frequent than is necessary.

Perhaps the most surprising thing about the famous places outside Peking is the persistence of local dialects. Shandong does not have a fully-fledged dialect like those of the southern provinces, but incomprehensible to anyone from another part of the country—but there are scores, probably hundreds, of local dialects often varying from one village to the next. A local interpreter joins the tour at the provincial capital of Jinan to sort out possible misunderstandings.

One wonders what Confucius—one of the world's earliest philosophers and a pioneer of the standardization of the Chinese language—would have made of it all.

David Bonavia

## Moones view Asia as mediator

From Our Correspondent, Seoul, Nov 10

The Rev Sun Myung Moon, leader whose followers are known as the "Moones", today revealed that the "historic mission" of his Unification Church was to solve the North-South problem and to use the "yellow race" to mediate between the upper and lower classes of the world.

Mr Moon, aged 61, was addressing more than 800 scholars from 109 different countries, at the opening of the tenth International Conference on the Unity of Sciences here.

Mr Moon said that Korea was emerging as the centre

for a new civilization which would block the Soviet Union's global aggression. The countries involved would be Korea, the United States, West Germany, Japan and China. "China would not mind joining together with Korea," he said that Japan, though not wanting to strengthen its own armaments, could produce weapons in China.

He proposed the construction of a "great Asian Highway" running through mainland China, North and South Korea and across Japan and its islands, via underwater tunnels or bridges.

The five-day conference,

being held for the first time in Korea, the "spiritual homeland" of the Unification Church, is the largest so far and will cost about \$2m (£1m).

It is funded by the Unification Church, though only a few of the participants are church members. Invited guests and their spouses have all expenses paid, free board and lodging in de luxe hotels and tourist excursions, but not air fares. Those delivering a major paper are paid an honorarium of about \$800.

But the participants deny they are along for the ride. "This conference gives us a unique chance to exchange ideas," said one participant.



## Mitterrand's poll rating rises despite problems

From Jonathan Fenby, Paris, Nov 10

Six months after the election of President Mitterrand, France today took stock of its sharp move to the left in a mood which combined continued support for the Socialist administration with a growing awareness of the challenges ahead.

The President's standing in public opinion polls is slightly higher than his election score on May 10. One weekend survey showed that the proportion of people giving him a positive rating had increased from 44 per cent at the end of his first 100 days in office to 53 per cent.

But while the polls bring good news to the Elysée Palace, the Government faces a growing problem over the response to its economic and social reforms.

On the one hand, the disenchantment felt by many French employers shows no sign of lessening. On the other, the trade union groups have been adopting an increasingly militant line about what they see as the slow pace of social and economic change.

The conflict between the expectations aroused among Socialist and Communist voters on May 10 and the economic realities of a country trying to boost its business competitiveness was at the bottom of a decision before a Cabinet meeting at the Elysée today.

As issues were how to prevent the social security system from running a 30,000m francs (£2,857m) deficit next year. Improvements in health care and other social services were among the Socialists' election promises. When the decision was how they should be financed and how the perennial deficit should be ended.

For the unions, whose support is an essential element of the administration's overall strategy, one thing was clear: workers should not be asked to pay any more. To make that so would be inconceivable, M. Henri Krasucki, deputy leader of the biggest labour federation, the CGT, declared. The Communist Party, to whom both M. Krasucki and M. Jack Ralite, the Minister of Health, belong, agreed as did Socialist union leaders.

But French companies, which have been urged by M. Mitterrand to reconquer the domestic market from foreign competitors as well as reinforce their export drive, were insisting that they could not pay any contributions without losing competitiveness both at home and abroad.

The Cabinet decision was a compromise: both employers and employees will pay more. The increased burden will

fall rather more heavily on companies than the ministers concerned with industry and the economy had wished. For the unions, the decision had a bitter taste as the administration for whose election they had worked so hard renege on an increase in employees' contributions first proposed, but then abandoned, by the previous Government.

Speaking shortly before the social security decision was reached, M. François Ceyrac, the chairman of the employers' federation, expressed concern at the "serious and deep lack of understanding" between private firms and the Government six months after M. Mitterrand's election.

While the Government's nationalization programme and the anti-capitalist pronouncements of Socialist members of Parliament continue to antagonize business leaders, their attitude towards the Mitterrand administration is also strongly affected by their uncertainty where the French economy is heading, and what their place in it will be a year after the left's electoral victory.

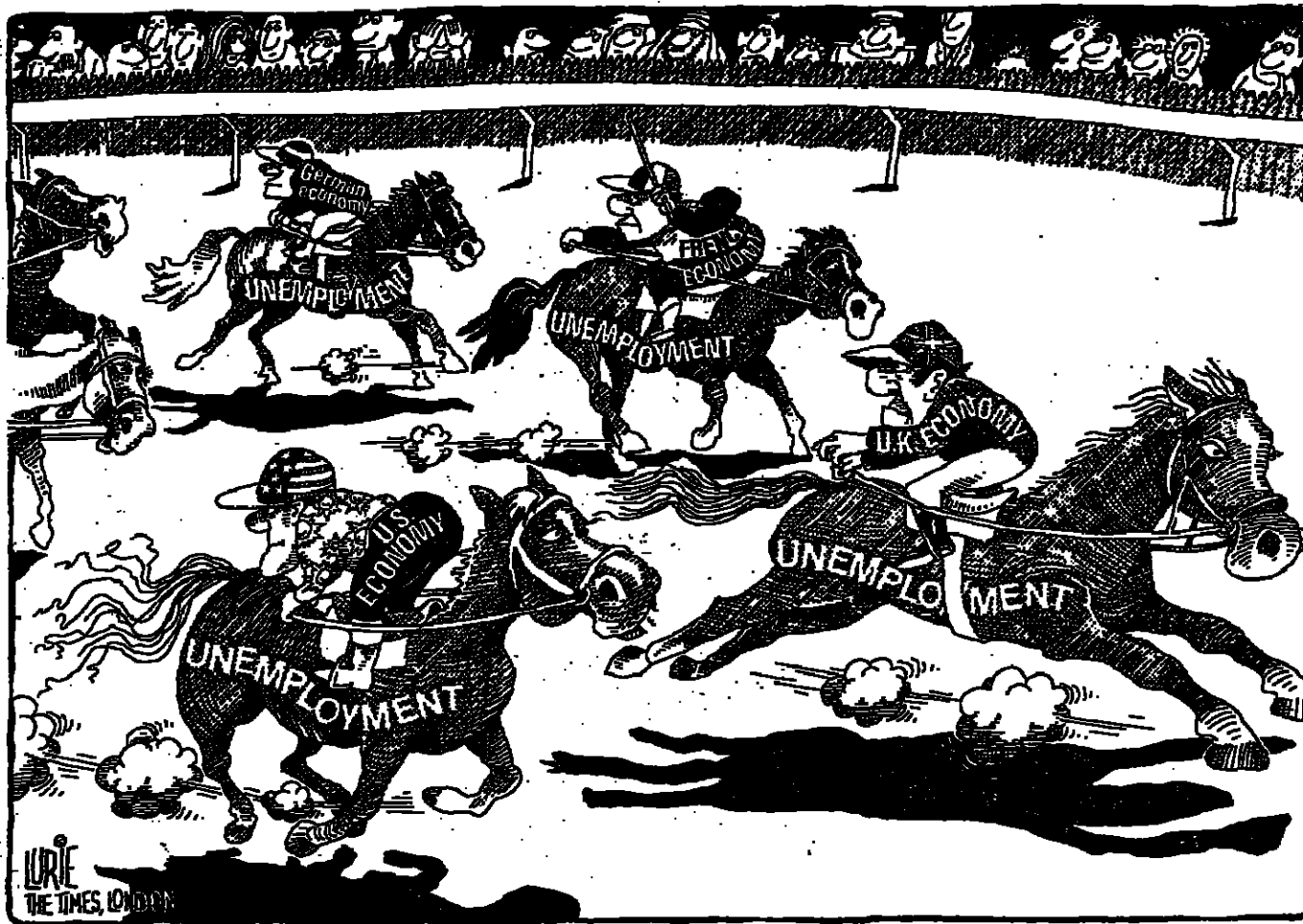
M. Mitterrand and M. Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, insist on the importance of the role of small and medium-sized firms in the reflationary expansion they plan for France. But even M. Mauroy, who has built up a reputation for pragmatism in the past six months, occasionally lets fall remarks calculated to undermine the cooperative spirit reached by the Government.

On a provincial tour yesterday, he sounded a warning that if the Government did not receive a satisfactory response to its attempt to cut unemployment by voluntary means, we will be taking to the streets measures which will obviously be stiffer, that is to say, enforced retirement."

French newspapers, reviewing the President's first six months today, emphasized the changes that had been introduced through such measures as decentralization, nationalizations, abolition of the death penalty, increases in the minimum industrial wage and M. Mitterrand's strong presence in international affairs.

Underlying their comments was an awareness of the differences between the fundamental philosophies of the left and its defeated opponents on the right.

For *Le Monde*, the confrontation was likely to go on until the changes now being introduced had taken root in the country's life. For the generally pro-Socialist *Le Matin*, on the other hand, the Government would do well to reflect that it could not govern France alone.



## Affair in Peking raises a storm

From Our Correspondent Paris, Nov. 10

Relations between France and China have been unexpectedly shaken by the repercussions of a romance between a French diplomat in Peking and a young Chinese woman artist who was sentenced yesterday to two years in a reeducation camp for staying in his room and for "incitement to debauchery."

So serious has the matter turned to Peking ending today by M. Michel Jobert, the Foreign Trade Minister, who told Chinese leaders that if he had known the conditions in which his visit would take place he would never have gone to China.

M. Claude Cheysson, the Foreign Minister, said tonight: "Since French opinion is concerned, Franco-Chinese relations are affected. France had made a number of approaches to the Chinese authorities about the case in recent weeks expressing its hope that the artist would be allowed to leave China to join her diplomat fiancée abroad and to marry him."

The diplomat, M. Emmanuel Bellefroid, aged 39, who had been in Peking for six years, met the artist, Li Shuang, aged 25, about a year ago and they subsequently became engaged. French sources said the Chinese authorities initially indicated that Li Shuang, known as a non-conformist artist, would be allowed to marry M. Bellefroid; but in September, shortly before the date set for the wedding, she was arrested.

News of the sentence became known after M. Jobert arrived in Peking, and discussions of the case took up most of his time there, instead of the scheduled programme on trade and economic cooperation. French sources said the discussions were held in an atmosphere of tension and mutual incomprehension.

□ Peking: Mr. Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, accused the diplomat of having "financed, aided and served as an intermediary between Chinese dissident circles and abroad, and told Mr. Jobert as much (AFP and Reuters report).

He made it clear at their meeting yesterday that the case "would be settled according to Chinese law" and that "it concerned only China."

Living together before marriage is frowned on in China and to do so with a foreigner is considered especially scandalous.

### IN BRIEF

#### 90 arrested for looting

Antananarivo. Madagascar radio reported that police had arrested 90 looters following two days of riots and widespread looting. The rioting broke out on Sunday after the Pima football team beat the provincial team Fortior in the national championships.

#### Population warning

Cape Town.—Enforced birth control might have to be applied in South Africa by future generations, unless all population groups voluntarily adopted family planning measures. Dr. Johan de Beer, Director-General of Health, Welfare and Pensions, told the President's Council, a multi-racial government advisory body.

#### 'Extinct' bird found

Washington.—The yellow-fronted towheebird, a colourful tropical bird not seen for 85 years and thought to be extinct, has been found in New Guinea, the National Geographic Society announced.

#### Snow in Bulgaria

Vienna.—Heavy snow and strong winds caused severe damage in Bulgaria and more than 100 towns and villages reported electricity and water supplies cut, the official BTA news agency said.

## Purge in Turkish radio and TV

From Sinan Fisek, Ankara, Nov 10

The Turkish Government yesterday carried out a purge at the radio and television organization, TRT, which has shocked journalists here.

More than 100 employees—reporters, producers and technicians known for their "progressive" views—have been named over the past two days to Government posts largely unconnected with their true professions. TRT employees have civil servant status, so the move was completely legal.

Mr. Okay Arayici, formerly head of the radio cultural programmes and a successful playwright, was transferred to a post at the Istanbul Port Authority.

Mr. Cetin Oner, a former actor-director turned producer of television dramas, will now be a civil servant at the Natural

Disasters Department of the Ministry of Housing and Reconstruction.

Mr. Selcuk Altan, a journalist for more than 20 years who joined TRT as a reporter a few years ago, was transferred to a post at the legal department of the Ministry of Public Works.

Mr. Mustafa Sehin and Mr. Okan Pehlivan, two television cameramen, were posted respectively to the State Fisheries Department in Trabzon, on the Black Sea coast, and to the Civil Aviation Department of the Ministry of Transport.

These purges signify a loss of professional status for the

employees and a big reduction in salary. They will have to give back, along with their press cards, the remainder for November of a special bonus they received every month and which amounted to a 60 per cent increase on their basic salaries. They will not be paid these bonuses in their new jobs.

Observers speculated that many of them would rather resign than accept the new postings. This was probably the intention of the Government.

Rumours circulating in TRT say that as many as 1,000 of the organization's 7,000 employees will be involved in eventual purges. One source reported that more than 250 others would be named to different posts within TRT, and about 40 would be simply fired in the near future.

## El Salvador leaders deny guerrillas are winning civil war

From Our Correspondent, New York, Nov 10

President José Napoleón Duarte of El Salvador says the left-wing guerrillas are in retreat and the civil war can be won by the Government, in spite of evidence to the contrary.

Senor Duarte, in an interview at his home with *The New York Times*, said the guerrillas were losing support and military strength. The necessary ingredients for defeating them were increased economic aid and a doubling in strength of the Army.

More military supplies were needed to replace those being used rapidly in increased fighting this year and more technical advisers to help the armed forces would be welcomed. He ruled out direct military help from neighbouring Guatemala and Honduras, or from any other country: "We have to solve our problems internally."

Argentina is reported to have offered fighting units and the military commands of Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador have been conferring.

The strength of El Salvador's armed forces stands at 20,000 but up to 50,000 are needed to counter the estimated 4,000 guerrillas, Senor Duarte claims. This is based on the 10 to one ratio developed by the British during the communist insurgency in Malaya in the 1950s.

Colonel José Guillermo García, his Defence Minister, has told a press conference in Washington that the armed forces were in control of El Salvador. The aim of these claims is to counter assertions by Mr. Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State, that there is stalemate in the civil war.

Observers claim that Mr. Haig's assessment is at best

optimistic about the regime's position.

*The Washington Post*, in a special report today, said the Army has lost control of a quarter of El Salvador's territory to the guerrillas. The Army was in imminent danger of losing land access to nearly half the country if the rebels continued a bridge demolition campaign.

The Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN) claims to have destroyed 32 bridges this year, isolating towns and parts of provinces where the guerrillas have free reign and have set up local governments. Most spectacular of the sabotage was the destruction of the country's largest bridge, the De Oro over the Lempa river, 48 miles from San Salvador. Senor Duarte and Colonel García dismissed this as an act of terrorism that could have been accomplished by any small group of trained guerrillas.

Colonel García said: "There has been an increase in terrorism in recent months, isolated but coordinated terrorist attacks. They create an appearance of success." When guerrillas saw they could not win militarily, they shifted to a campaign to destroy the country economically by blowing up bridges, factories and power stations.

The United Nations Human Rights Commission issued a report yesterday blaming left-wing guerrillas, right-wing death squads and Government security forces for the wholesale killings in El Salvador.

The report said it was impossible to say which faction was most to blame but it accused the civilian-military junta under Senor Duarte of passivity and inactivity in the face of the violence.

### Shuttle countdown

Washington.—The countdown for the second launch of the space shuttle Columbia was started again with great hopes that this time nothing would prevent a launch early on Thursday.

### Government sought

Brussels.—King Baudouin met three key politicians separately to see how a new Belgian Government can be formed taking into account the political shifts that occurred in last Sunday's national elections.

## Gulf between Mugabe and minorities is widening

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, Nov 10

Mr Robert Mugabe completed his tour of Zimbabwe's rural areas at the weekend in a fashion which may have produced the desired effect of restoring the popularity of his administration to its previous level among the majority, but has done nothing to repair a widening estrangement from minorities.

The Prime Minister wound up the last of the series of rallies which started in August with probably the most scathing public attack he has yet made on the country's whites. Only days before he had again accused opposition leaders—another popular—but of plotting against the Government.

The theme of Mr Mugabe's speeches has become familiar over recent weeks, the targets generally being Mr Ian Smith's Republican Front and Bishop Abel Muzorewa and his supporters.

In Belgrade last night, on his tour of Eastern Europe, he repeated his allegation that South Africa was intending to destabilize Zimbabwe by training 5,000 former Muzorewa auxiliaries in sabotage.

These are statements which have been made before, but Mr Mugabe's now it is sharper, notably at a rally attended by up to 40,000 in Gwelo at the weekend.

According to press reports which have been denied by the Prime Minister's Office he launched into a tirade against white employers, accusing them of abusing their black workers and profiting by "sucking their blood like vampires."

Further comment was stirred by his reported encouragement of blacks to strike whites who used racially insulting language. "From now on I give you my permission to hit every one who calls you a kaffir," he said. "But do not beat the innocent ones; only those who ill-treat you."

The Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries responded that Mr Mugabe's apparent condonation of violence could result in a "dramatic deterioration in industrial relations."

Mr Geoffrey Kluckow, chair-

man of the Republican Front, said that those whites who had been unable to live under a black government had already left the country and those who remained were committed to its development. "It is our country as much as it is for everyone," he said.

Such politically popular swings by the Prime Minister at the whites may be one way of distracting the majority from their grievances, but it does not sit well with his image as a moderate conciliator.

That image would appear to have taken something of a bruising, although in speaking to other constituencies—for example the white farmers he addressed in Karoi last week—the Prime Minister is his usual restrained self. Then he was generous in his praise of the farmers' accomplishments while rebuking them in mild terms for their treatment of workers.

The strong impression remains that government politicians are tailoring their speeches according to the audience. That has been part of Mr Mugabe's delicate balancing act since independence, and if the results sound less diplomatic now it is because Mr Mugabe appears to believe that the ruling Zanu (PF) party has lost touch with its grass roots.

The concern that lies behind that belief is that the majority are expecting more than any government in the circumstances would be able to give—may in turn account for some of the wilder swings at Bishop Muzorewa and other black politicians who draw their support from the same areas as Zanu (PF).

In spite of Mr Mugabe's speeches, which are seen by some as indications that he is genuinely worried about his position, there can be few African leaders in history who have felt sufficiently secure to spend less time in their capitals than away from them. Since embarking on the meet-the-people tours the Prime Minister has also made lengthy visits to Scandinavia, Australia and now Eastern Europe.

## EEC seal ban sought

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Nov 10

A ban on the import of all products derived from seals into the EEC is being recommended by the European Parliament's environment committee.

The committee hopes that the ban, if agreed by Parliament when it debates the issue early next year, would go a long way towards making trade in sealskins less profitable.

The 10 members of the environment committee gave

unanimous support to the recommendation at their meeting today after studying a report on the danger to seals caused by indiscriminate killing which had been prepared by Mrs Hanna Maij-Weggen, a Dutch MEP.

According to Mr Barry Seal, the Labour MP for Yorkshire, West, who has drawn up a report on trade in endangered species, seal imports into the Community at the moment are worth about £20m a year.

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## Gulf leaders seek to coordinate defence policies

From Edward Mortimer, Riyadh, Nov 10

Defence cooperation and relations with the United States are the issues likely to dominate the summit meeting of six Arab Gulf states which was opened here tonight by King Khalid of Saudi Arabia.

The meeting brings together the six traditional rulers who between them control the Gulf's south-western shore. It is six months since they met at Abu Dhabi to form the Gulf Cooperation Council. Under whose charter such summits are to be a regular twice-yearly occasion.

The intervening period has seen a series of ministerial meetings, devoted mainly to economic cooperation but dealing also with political questions, and a meeting of chiefs of staff to consider common defence problems.

Saudi Arabia is by far the largest and most powerful of the states involved, the others being Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates. The formation of the council, with its headquarters and secretariat in Riyadh, shows a greater willingness than in the past, on the part of the smaller Gulf states, to accept Saudi leadership.

Old jealousies and rivalries have been partly overcome by common fears since the Islamic revolution, which three years ago transformed Iran, on the other side of the Gulf, from a somewhat officious policeman of Western interests into an exponent, and would-be exporter, of Islamic revolution.

The threat was sharpened last year when war broke out between Iraq and Iran. The Arab Gulf states sympathized with Iraq, but feared that Iran would retaliate against them. This was what prompted Saudi Arabia's demand for Awacs surveillance aircraft. Recent Iranian attacks on oil installations in Kuwait served as a reminder that Awacs could have a role to play in the defence of the Gulf as a whole.

At the same time Iraq's inability to bring the war to a successful or even dignified conclusion has prevented it from pursuing its own claims to leadership of the Arab

world and left the field free for the Saudis.

The Gulf states are anxious to move towards a common market and even a common currency, and especially to coordinate their industrial development so as to avoid uneconomic duplication of investment. This is much easier said than done, but the ministers and experts have been working on it with a seriousness which has surprised some observers.

Defence cooperation is a more sensitive issue since it inevitably raises the question of alignment with foreign powers, and specifically with the United States. The rulers of Kuwait are firm believers in a non-aligned foreign policy, while those of the other states are in varying degrees pre-Western.

The most uninhibitedly pro-Western is Sultan Qaboos bin Said of Oman, who last year agreed to give American forces access to his country's ports and airfields in the event of an emergency in the region.

Oman is the only Gulf state participating in the American Operation Brightstar exercises which have just begun. But last week it reduced the level of its participation, which will now involve only a brief and largely symbolic landing of United States marines.

This was no doubt a gesture intended to reassure Arab opinion and improve the chances that the summit will adopt Oman's views, offered in a working paper, on the need for close coordination of security and standardization of defence equipment.

Iranian criticism of the Awacs deal provoked scathing editorials in the Saudi press yesterday morning, on the basis of a misreading of the news of a visit to Saudi Arabia by a Saudi aircraft carrier. Last night Saudi radio and television for the first time drew attention to an Israeli violation of Saudi airspace — in fact not an uncommon occurrence — claiming that the Israeli jets were forced back by Saudi fighters.

This too would help to disprove Iranian claims that Saudi Arabia is subservient to the United States and in collusion with Israel.

## Truth is veiled in a verbal battle

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, Nov 10

Within one day of Israel's latest verbal barrage against the Palestine Liberation Organisation, claiming that the PLO had broken the terms of the ceasefire in southern Lebanon — the Palestinians have fired off a few shots of their own. Both sides have fallen a little short of the truth.

Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO chairman, claimed at a press conference in Beirut that Israeli military activity has increased along the south Lebanese border and that Israel was planning a major attack on Palestinian guerrilla positions.

He said that four Israeli brigades were massed along the frontier in preparation for a ground assault into Lebanon. For his part, Mr Ariel Sharon, the Israeli Defence Minister, alleged that Palestinian guerrillas had been building up their military supplies in southern Lebanon and now possessed up to 270 artillery pieces, 60 tanks and 100 troop carriers.

The fact that almost every United Nations contingent in southern Lebanon is on the lowest scale of alert suggests that Mr Sharon and Mr Arafat are exaggerating the danger of another conflict in the south of the country.

There are, in fact, no substantiated reports of Israeli military manoeuvres along Israel's northern border. Nor are there any signs of increased Israeli military traffic in Major Saad Haddad's militia enclave, while in the Palestinian-controlled area of southern Lebanon, there is scarcely a tank to be seen.

Indeed, the only tanks in the hands of the PLO are vintage Soviet-built T34 vehicles which should really be in a military museum. Although Israel has probably given from Syria, they appear to have started their active career more than two decades ago in the Indian Army.

The PLO, however, have recently acquired more Katyusha rockets launched by United Nations officials and admitted with less discretion by Palestinian officers in southern Lebanon.

The Katyushas caused considerable damage in northern Israel towns since the ceasefire was enforced last July. A number of new heavy machine guns — apparently arriving here from Libya by way of Syria — have also appeared in the south.

Mr Sharon was correct in suggesting that the Palestinians were increasing their fortifications north of the United Nations lines in Lebanon. PLO men have been digging in for the winter north of the Litani River, building earth revetments for their vehicles and constructing a network of tunnels. The Palestinian-controlled area inside the Dutch battalion of the United Nations force.

But Mr Sharon neglected to mention that Major Haddad's Israeli-supplied militia have also been reinforcing their gun positions south of the United Nations lines and building a line of earthen bunkers, just outside the Major's "capital" of Marjayoun.

Mr Sharon also failed to point out that Israeli regular troops have been building concrete shelters beside the radar station that they maintain four miles inside southern Lebanon.

Mr Arafat, however, has not chosen to recall that many of the recent violations inside the United Nations territory were the work of guerrillas. The PLO has failed to provide the most responsible for an assassination attempt on the United Nations deputy commander last month. The culprits are believed to have been members of the Muslim Brotherhood, an Arab nationalist group.

It is a sign of the times that a United Nations officer could state of affairs as "about the quietest we can ever remember in southern Lebanon".

detention orders had also been imposed on other prominent West Bankers, including the editor of the left-wing newspaper, *El Shaab*, and a councillor from the town of El Bira. Yesterday the Israeli censor imposed a 10-day ban on the radical Arab daily *Al Fair*.

Elsewhere, an almost total commercial strike in annexed East Jerusalem continued for its second day, with shops and schools closed. Israeli security forces were parading the area in force and two youths were arrested when they tried to unfurl a Palestinian flag.

The strike and other demonstrations—including the burning of tyres at the Kalandia refugee camp—were the latest in a series of protests against Israeli measures which would be taken in the West Bank against those in sympathy with "new" organizations who would begin for the peaceful popu-



## US moves troops into Egypt for war games

From Our Correspondent, Cairo, Nov

Units of the United States army and air force began to arrive in Egypt today to take part in the largest manoeuvres here of the American rapid deployment force. The exercise will involve Egyptian troops and

about 4,000 Americans and is designed to test the United States ability to protect its interests in the Middle East.

Operation Brightstar 82 as the exercise is called, will start near Cairo West airport later this week as parallel manoeuvres take place in Sudan, Somalia and Oman, making up the first multinational tactical test faced by the rapid deployment force.

An American military spokesman said that units of the 24th infantry started arriving in CS and C141 transport aircraft and more troops, equipment and logistics experts will arrive later.

About 350 Army, Navy and Air Force personnel will

conduct manoeuvres with Sudanese troops while in Somalia another 300 will carry out logistics training operations at Berbera. In Oman American Navy and Marine forces, operating in the Indian Ocean, will work with the Sultan of Oman's forces.

Last year's operation, called Brightstar 81, was confined to Egypt, involved about 1,400 men and, unlike this year, did not include the command structure of the rapid deployment force. Equipment to be tested during the American's month-long stay includes A-10 tactical fighter aircraft, M60 tanks, M113 armoured personnel carriers, helicopters and artillery.

## Water dispute excluded from Cairo talks on autonomy

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, Nov 10

When Israeli and Egyptian Ministers meet in Cairo tomorrow in their latest attempt to reach agreement on Palestinian autonomy, one of the key questions which will be deliberately excluded from detailed discussion is control of the already over-exploited water resources in the said 2,200 square miles of the occupied West Bank.

It is because the differences over the politics of water are so fundamental that they are being by-passed. Both sides have decided to postpone argument on problems where disagreement is greatest in an effort to reach at least limited agreement on the formation of an elected autonomy council.

Although this new approach may at last succeed in breaking the 17-month deadlock, it has not inspired international confidence that the negotiations can produce a sufficiently wide-ranging form of self-rule either to shore up the Camp David processor to win cooperation from the 700,000 West Bank Palestinians.

Water has been a divisive issue in the area since the time of King Solomon and the Quarrelling tribes of Israel. At the root of the present dispute is the premise that whoever controls the West Bank's water will control the West Bank.

Israel's uncompromising stand insisting that the resource remains entirely under Israeli jurisdiction — is reinforced by fears that control were ever relinquished, the Palestinians could not only drive out Jewish settlers by cutting off their water, but also wreak havoc to the country's national water supply.

The Government's concern arises from the little known fact that Israel draws one third of its annual water consumption of 1,600 million cubic metres of water from the underground reserves of the occupied Jordanian territory. Hydrologists have shown that any large-scale Palestinian drilling on the western slopes of Samaria

could destroy this vital source of supply by rendering it irreversibly saline. The essential role played by West Bank water in boosting supply inside Israel's pre-1967 borders is understood to be one of the main factors in the shared determination of both the Government and the Labour Opposition that the entire West Bank should never again be handed back into Arab hands.

Western diplomats point out that this argument does not take into account that the autonomous Palestinians or even a demilitarized Palestinian state would be presumed to be at peace with Israel. It also assumes that the Palestinians would be prepared deliberately to salinate their own main water supply.

Explaining the Israeli stand that the water supply in the region between the Mediterranean sea and the Jordan river is interdependent Mr Yacov Vardi, a leading Israeli hydrologist, said: "You have to look at the whole area like one ship. It is impossible to drill holes and then hope that some of the cabins will not sink".

By an irony of history, the West Bank is an area where semi-desert conditions prevail although it is part of a region once known as the Fertile Crescent. "It is one of those places where water is more precious than oil. An American voluntary worker based in Jerusalem explained.

"Although the subject is not widely discussed, it is capable of producing a gut reaction as strong as anything in the Arab-Israeli conflict." Disputes with the Arabs over water go back for years. The most drastic example came in 1964 when Israel diverted the Jordan river as part of a national irrigation plan and the Arab states threatened to turn away the water at its source, which could have ruined Israel.

In the 1967 war, Israel made a claim that it brought the Jordan river's source in Syria under its control. This partly explains its continuing reluctance to give up the Golan Heights.

Although water has long been one of the most sensitive aspects of Israel's 14-year occupation of the West Bank, it only came to the fore internationally in 1979. In that year, foreign television teams descended on the Arab village of El Auja to film its drought-stricken banana plantations and contrast them with shots of a crowded swimming pool at an Israeli kibbutz near by. At that village deep-bore Israeli drillings were blamed by Palestinians for drying up a spring with an annual average outflow of 11 million cubic metres of sweet water.

The military government (which controls all water matters in the West Bank) argued that the drying up of the spring had nothing to do with the Israeli drillings, and eventually appeared to be justified when the spring began to flow again in abundance.

Statistics supplied to The Times this week by Tahal, the Israeli water planning corporation, go a long way towards explaining Palestinian bitterness over the water question. The 700,000 West Bank Arabs now consume between 110 million and 120 million cubic metres of water a year, while only 20,000 Jewish settlers consume about 22 million cubic metres — a figure which is rising as numbers expand.

Mr Ibrahim Matar, an Arab agricultural expert said: "The Israelis are in absolute control of our water resources. Every well is forcibly equipped with a meter and consumption artificially pegged to the level in 1976."

As with the question of land, to which it is closely related, the question of water in the West Bank lies at the heart of the Israeli concept of Palestinian autonomy. The right-wing Government of Mr Menachem Begin is determined never to concede the control won during the 1967 war, while the Egyptians remain adamant that the concept of "full autonomy" must involve at least some control of the main natural resource.

## Door left open to negotiations

## Lévesque denounces Ottawa accord

From John Best, Ottawa, Nov 10

The Quebec Government has decided against calling an early referendum on provincial election over last week's constitutional settlement between the other nine Canadian provinces and the Federal Government.

Mr René Lévesque, the Premier of Quebec, addressing the Quebec Legislative Assembly yesterday said, however, that both options remain under study.

"We will continue to reflect," he said. Mr Lévesque again denounced the new federal-provincial agreement, which is a formula for bringing home the British North America Act of 1867 from Westminster.

"Never will we tolerate the effect of this knife-wound in the fabric of our collective existence," he told legislators of the predominantly French-speaking province.

The signatories to the agreement had made "a Canada without Quebec, a Canada from which Quebec would be excluded though it would be bound hand and foot".

Mr Lévesque appeared to reject the Federal Government's offer of negotiations to try to remove Quebec's objections to the accord, which concerns both the amending formula and the bill of rights to be entrenched in Canada's new constitution.

"There is no question of accepting the Ottawa accord," he said, adding that "before anything" the Federal Government would have to renounce all the provisions in the accord which diminish Quebec's rights.

But Mr Lévesque may have left the door to negotiations open just a little. "He didn't say no in plain terms," commented Mr Claude Ryan, the Quebec Liberal Opposition leader.

In Ottawa, Mr Jean Chretien, the Federal Justice Minister, said the Government would continue to explore ways of bringing Quebec into the agreement. "It is likely, therefore, that it will be some time before the Government's revised constitutional resolution is cleared through Parliament and is sent to Westminster."

## Russia uses spy claim to justify sub incident

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, Nov 10

The Russians today countered the outcry over the submarine incident by suggesting that Sweden, by its territory to be used for secret electronic espionage against the Soviet Union.

A Tass report from Stockholm, without making any mention of the recent grounding of the submarine in Swedish waters near the Karlskrona naval base, said Swedish military intelligence had long been spying on the Soviet Union in close cooperation with Nato intelligence services.

Quoting a Swedish journal *Par*, Tass said the United States had set up a network of listening posts and communications stations in Denmark and Norway in the 1960s and a similar station was located on Lovö Island, six miles from Stockholm.

"It makes it possible to listen in to areas deep in Soviet territory, determine the location of military bases, control and monitor the flights of aircraft," Tass said. The station was linked to a Nato network of similar posts that were directed against Communist countries.

The brief Tass report is clearly an attempt to justify to members of the Soviet public, who may have heard from foreign radio broadcasts, about the diplomatic dispute the submarine's discovery caused, what is apparently presented as a legitimate action in defending Soviet security.

Stockholm: Sweden reacted angrily today to claims by a former Soviet Army colonel, Daniel Procktor, that radiation detected on board the Soviet submarine came from a luminous watch. He was speaking at a peace meeting in Oslo (Our Correspondent writes).

One of such a submarine would not have access to nuclear weapons in peacetime," said Colonel Procktor, who now heads a Moscow research institute studying international relations and the world economy. He has been convicted by the Norwegian Peace Committee.

In Stockholm, Mr Ola Ullsten, the Swedish Foreign Minister, responded: "The Russians had the opportunity to let us check the radiation. They refused. They have no credibility left."

A Defence Ministry spokesman said the radiation was from at least a kilogramme (2.2lb) of Uranium 238.

Madrid: The head of the Swedish delegation to the European security review conference said the submarine was discovered in an intentional violation of Swedish territory, on the very day the conference resumed its work after a recess "in order to finish its important task of restoring confidence in Europe" (Harry Debelius writes).

The Swedish was there "for the purpose of carrying on illegal activities", Mr Carl Rappe said.

"It goes without saying that this was a flagrant violation

## Korchnoi resigns fourteenth game

From Our Correspondent, Nov 10

Merano, Nov 10 — Anatoly Karpov won the fourteenth game in his defence of the world chess title today when Viktor Korchnoi, the challenger, resigned before play could resume after the overnight adjournment.

Korchnoi, playing Black, had sealed his forty-sixth move but resigned without playing it, giving Karpov a 5-2 lead in the series, one win from retention of the championship.

Despite Karpov's imposing lead, Korchnoi's chief spokesman, Mr Edward Steiner, insisted he could still turn the match around.

"We will fight. We believe ever now the match is far away from the end," Mr Steiner said. However, another of his seconds said: "The prevailing mood in the camp is one of gloom."

Experts said Korchnoi might postpone the fifteenth game, which is due on Thursday. Each man has used up two of the three time-outs allowed each player under the championship rules.

They would play the game off until Saturday. In any case, Korchnoi will be playing white, which gives him a slight advantage since white moves first.

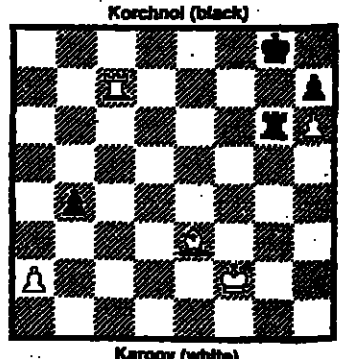
At the start of yesterday's game Karpov, aged 30, arrived a few minutes after Korchnoi, who had won the thirteenth. Karpov was dressed in a new

grey suit conforming with his habit of wearing a new outfit after losing a game.

— Reuter, AP

Opening Ray Lopez

1 P-K4	10-KB3
2 P-KB3	11-KB3
3 P-B4	12-KB3
4 P-B4	13-KB3
5 P-B4	14-KB3
6 P-B4	15-KB3
7 P-B4	16-KB3
8 P-B4	17-KB3
9 P-B4	18-KB3
10 P-B4	19-KB3
11 P-B4	20-KB3
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34 P-B4	43-KB3
35 P-B4	44-KB3
36 P-B4	45-KB3
37 P-B4	46-KB3
38 P-B4	47-KB3
39 P-B4	48-KB3



## Landslide win in Trinidad

From Our Correspondent, Nov 10

Port of Spain, Trinidad, Nov 10 — The ruling People's National Movement (PNM) won a landslide victory in yesterday's general election in Trinidad and Tobago, according to the latest batch of results announced early today.

There was a carnival atmosphere through the night as supporters of Mr George Chambers, the Prime Minister, danced in the streets of Port of Spain.

The PNM was assured of at least 26 seats in the 36-member House of Representatives. It had 24 last time. It will be the sixth successive term of office for the PNM, which has

ruled the country for 25 years.

Mr Karl Hudson-Phillips, of the Organization for National Reconstruction, who had been named as Mr Chambers' biggest threat, suffered humiliating rejection. He and all his candidates lost. He said the result of the poll was not a true reflection of the mood of the country and it was unlikely that the PNM would survive in power for another five years.

Mr Chambers scored an easy victory in his St Ann's East constituency. His tally of just over 8,400 votes was the highest in the poll.

## Tel Aviv silent on 'airspace violation'

From Our Own Correspondent, Jerusalem, Nov 10

The Israeli Government today maintained an official silence over the claim by Saudi Arabia that Israeli jets yesterday violated Saudi airspace and returned to their base after being intercepted by Saudi fighters.

A senior Foreign Ministry official only said the assertion that Israel never comments on the operational whereabouts of its air force, inside or outside the country. But Western observers believe that Israeli aircraft have made frequent training and reconnaissance flights over parts of Saudi Arabia in recent years.

Private consultations were held today between Israeli officials and diplomats from the American Embassy in Tel Aviv.

The Americans are acutely aware that the overflight controversy has come to a head at a time when tension between Israel and Saudi Arabia is high, both because of the recent Senate vote in favour of the Awacs surveillance aircraft and because of Israeli opposition to the eight-point peace proposal of Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

While the Israeli Government refused to talk publicly about the incident, it was noted that the timing of the reported overflights had coincided almost exactly with a press conference yesterday at which Mr Ariel Sharon, the Defence Minister, issued a detailed attack against Saudi Arabia. He said that it would now be treated "exactly as any other hostile confrontation state". During the

press conference at the Defence Ministry, foreign correspondents were handed 17 pages of specially prepared material designed to demonstrate in detail the military threat now posed to Israel by Saudi Arabia and "the myth" of Saudi moderation.

One source devoted to backing a claim that Saudi Arabia has become a confrontation state in the Arab-Israeli struggle. The Israeli documents specifically mentioned the Saudi armaments stationed at Tabuk near the border, the Saudi air base in the area where yesterday's overflights were alleged to have taken place.

Israeli intelligence pinpointed Saudi military strength near the border. "If in the past Saudi Arabia took part in the wars against Israel by sending small expeditionary forces, the developments are enhancing the Saudi military potential to a point where it risks to become a significant threat in any future war," the document said.

"During a war, it might be imperative for Israel to remove the Saudi Awacs threat," the document stated. "Awacs" in the Saudi order of battle dangerously increase the odds of confrontation with Saudi Arabia. Should the system be managed by a United States crew or even only by a United States American individuals in a contingency situation, Israel would be presented with the most excruciating dilemma of how to deal with the threat."

## HURD WILL DISCUSS PEACE PLAN

Growing diplomatic confusion over the European Community's proposed contribution to the Sinai peacekeeping force will be among the main topics during the visit to Washington of Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

The Middle East is among Mr Hurd's special responsibilities.

## Israel fetters academics amid West Bank unrest

From Our Own Correspondent, Jerusalem, Nov 10

Several senior Palestinian academics in the occupied West Bank have had their movements restricted by Israeli authorities as widespread Arab unrest in the region continued for the eighth consecutive day.

Dr Gassan Barakat, one of two vice-presidents of Bir Zeit University, told me tonight that he and four other members of the university council had been placed under temporary town arrest. Dr Izzat Ghurani, the university's vice-president for financial and administrative affairs, has been placed under house arrest for three days.

The moves come after last week's indefinite closure of Bir Zeit, the largest Arab campus in the West Bank, after a student complement of 2,000 and some 300 teaching staff.

Students and staff from the university have begun a campaign to try to bring international academic pressure to persuade Israel to reopen the campus, which has been the scene of anti-Israeli demonstrations. Israeli radio reported that

detention orders had also been imposed on other prominent West Bankers, including the editor of the left-wing newspaper, *El Shaab*, and a councillor from the town of El Bira. Yesterday the Israeli censor imposed a 10-day ban on the radical Arab daily *Al Fair*.

Elsewhere, an almost total commercial strike in annexed East Jerusalem continued for its second day, with shops and schools closed. Israeli security forces were parading the area in force and two youths were arrested when they tried to unfurl a Palestinian flag.

The strike and other demonstrations—including the burning of tyres at the Kalandia refugee camp—were the latest in a series of protests against Israeli measures which would be taken in the West Bank against those in sympathy with "new" organizations who would begin for the peaceful popu-



Adequate water supply is a matter of life and death in Samaria, where labourer is working in a field

AL-MUSLIMUN  
The Muslim League  
The Muslim League is a political organization that represents the interests of Muslims in the Middle East. It was founded in 1934 and has since then been active in various political and social movements. The league has a long history of advocating for the rights of Muslims and has played a significant role in the development of the Muslim community in the region.



Chest transplants and food poisoning / political advisers and the politics of planning

## Why new hearts are not enough

Transplants of virtually the entire contents of the chest — the heart, both lungs and the large blood vessels that connect them — are now being performed at the Stanford Medical Centre in California. Three men and one woman have received the combined transplants. One man died soon after the operation because of complications from previous open heart surgery but the other three patients were described last week at a medical conference in New York as making remarkable progress just eight months, six months and one month after their operations.

The news is exciting not just because lung transplants have not been successfully performed before, but because the Stanford heart transplant programme, directed by Professor Norman Shumway, is highly respected within the profession, and Shumway is not given to making precipitate claims of success for the sake of publicity. He is the surgeon who taught Christian Barnard how to perform heart transplants but who himself refused to do the operation until he had achieved specific experimental goals in the control of tissue rejection.

The combined transplant is being used to help patients whose lungs have been damaged by their heart disease and it offers them a remarkable improvement in the quality of their lives. One of the Stanford patients had spent all of his 40 years as a respiratory cripple, unable to move too vigorously because of breathlessness. His skin was bluish grey and his lips, tongue, the inside of his mouth, the beds of his nails were the colour of blue-black ink. He was a "blue baby" grown into blue middle age. After the transplant, his skin turned pink and six months later his activities are no longer circumscribed by breathlessness.

Surprisingly, the combined transplant is technically less difficult for the surgeon than a heart transplant because he has to join fewer main blood vessels together. And, in engineering terms, it is a more logical operation. Heart, lungs and blood vessels that link them form a pump-ventilation unit that oxygenates the blood. To replace just the pump in a damaged ventilation system is dubious engineering, and surgeons would have done combined transplants many times before if they had found a way to overcome the rejection problems that occur with transplanted lungs. Not only is lung tissue difficult to protect but the drugs given to overcome rejection can prevent healing at the junction connecting the transplanted lungs to the recipient's windpipe.

Last week, Dr Bruce Reitz, one of Shumway's colleagues, accorded a large part of the credit for the Stanford success to a new anti-rejection drug Cyclosporin A, the use of which was pioneered two years ago in Britain by Professor Roy Calne at Cambridge University. Cyclosporin A not only reduces rejection reactions to transplanted tissues but allows the surgeon to reduce the number and dosage of other more toxic drugs that have to be given after the operation to prevent the body's immunological defences from attacking the transplanted organs. Nearly all deaths that occur after heart transplant operations are due to the effects of these "immunosuppressive" drugs which, though they can prevent rejection, also reduce the body's capacity to deal with infection.

Clearly, Cyclosporin A is not the only reason for Stanford's success. Since 1968, Norman Shumway and his colleagues have performed 217 heart transplants and have acquired unique experience in the detection and control of tissue rejection. Shumway told me: "Surgeons who attempt these sort of procedures must lead up to them with successful laboratory and animal experimental programmes. It helps the team appreciate the magnitude of the problems that will come up after the operation and gives the surgeon the chance to decide whether the procedure is just too big a mess for him to get involved in. What happened in the early days of heart transplants was that the patients, predictably got into severe difficulties, people hadn't the exper-



Professor Shumway, above, taught Dr Barnard, right, but would not apply transplant techniques until he had improved rejection-control

tal experience to interpret what was going on, the treatment was inadequate and the patients died." Bruce Reitz told last week's meeting, sponsored by the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, that the Stanford group did its first combined transplant in a patient only after two monkeys which had the operation and had been treated with Cyclosporin A had lived for 18 months. Both monkeys are still alive two years after their operations.

If the Stanford results fulfil their early promise, the combined transplant will not just save the lives but will greatly enhance the quality of life of patients whose irretrievably damaged hearts cannot

be replaced because of their damaged lungs. And when the Stanford group talks about "quality of life", it defines exactly what it means. Patients are selected for operation not just because of the severity of their medical condition; they are screened also for psychosocial problems that might inhibit their rehabilitation after a transplant. Shumway's team needs to be convinced that patients will see the operation as offering them additional useful life rather than just extending the process of dying. Some of their patients want, above all, to return to competitive employment. Others want to

## One step ahead of 'Yes Minister'

by George Cardona

I arrived at the treasury as a special adviser in May, 1979, clutching an armful of files which contained the policies we had worked on in the years of Conservative Opposition. I had read, and heard, about the obstructions the Civil Service would place in the way of a new Government. Books and articles by Labour ministers and special advisers (particularly in the Bennite wing of the party) warned me of what to expect. I was ready to defend our policies against the most dirty tricks.

An example was the Medium-Term Financial Strategy. Some officials thought it too great a hostage to fortune. There was a straightforward discussion; the Chancellor decided to publish; and officials have loyally defended it ever since. All this does not mean of course that a weak minister will not be dominated by his officials. But a weak superior will be dominated by his underlings in any walk of life. There is, however, one serious shortcoming in the way the Treasury treats ministers and advisers. It is reluctant to let them become involved in issues at an early stage. It likes to present ministers with a fully worked-out set of options that have been exhaustively discussed at official level. By the time this process is completed, there can be too little time for ministerial consideration of the options: ministers have to take a decision, and advisers have to advise, without having had the opportunity to watch the argument develop.

Most major policy papers are processed through a committee, consisting of all the Permanent Secretaries and Deputy Secretaries, called the Policy Co-ordinating Committee. I think it is rather a pity that political advisers did not attend any of its meetings.

On the few occasions when a minister tried to intervene in policy formulation at an early stage, the official reaction was usually to say: "It would happen if a dinner in a smart restaurant were to get up to serve himself; no one would actually stop him, but six waiters would rush forward to do it for him."

In the past, some ministers have criticized another aspect of the official reluctance to let ministers become involved at an early stage. They have complained that officials are made to follow the line laid down by the Permanent Secretary, but this is by no means universal practice.

It was quite normal at meetings for Sir Douglas Wass to ask different officials to put different sides of the argument; and it was also quite normal for them to do so without being asked. However, I can think of at least one occasion on which a Permanent Secretary told his subordinates to argue a case contrary to the main thrust of the Government's privatization policy, even though those subordinates were in sympathy with the Government's strategy.

It is a great pity that the myth of conflict between ministers and advisers on the one hand and the Civil Service on the other has been allowed to grow. Perhaps, more important, the myth would make it easier for a Bennite Government to introduce a political Civil Service, in which perhaps 3,000 top posts might change at an election, as part of a campaign to remove any constraints — such as the House of Lords, the EEC and, possibly, the five-year parliamentary term — on a government's freedom of action.

But if the Treasury is any guide to the Civil Service as a whole, the Bennites need have no fear that the Civil Service is biased against them. A highly able Treasury Assistant Secretary, who will go far, said to me on my last day in the Treasury: "If Mr Benn becomes Prime Minister, I and my colleagues will serve him faithfully."

I am sure he was right, and from my political position, I find it frightening that if there were a Bennite government — with a majority in the Commons — it would be under no effective constitutional constraints, and it would have at its disposal in the Civil Service a machine of great efficiency prepared to serve its political masters with loyalty and dedication.

The author was a political adviser at the Treasury from May 1979 till last month.

## Are politicians killing our planning system?

The Coin Street public inquiry, now under way at County Hall in London, is not just another local battle between noble natives and destructive developers, vivid though such a battle may be. What is under examination is the future of the British planning system which has guided the country since the last war. Indeed, the inquiry — the second on the subject to take place in context — which indicates that Michael Heseltine has tacitly agreed to the death of that planning system: leaving to the public inquiry the enjoyable task of dividing up — the corpse between the carrion.

British planning came of age with the Town and Country Planning Act, and was refined during the subsequent 20 years of consensus agreement over the way the machinery should operate. The philosophy was simple: that local authorities, the government should employ substantial numbers of skilled and trained staff whose job would be to present to elected members the optimum possibilities for development. The methodology was further refined in the '60s into a few clear stages: the preparation of a Regional Strategic Plan; followed by the preparation of a County Plan; followed by a Borough or District Plan, ending up with a statutory Local Plan. It was a cumbersome, often tedious and usually incoherent system, but it earned Britain the envy of the rest of the world.

More recently, however, the philosophy behind the system has been questioned. People and planners began to realize that one person's advantage could so easily become another person's disadvantage. The end product of planning became to be seen as the disposition of public resources. Some trendy, radical planners coined the view that planning was "a political act". They might not have been so keen to see that stance had they been able to realize the extent to which other people would interpret the term "political act" and attack the foundations of the whole system.

There have been earlier doubts about the efficacy of the system: the third London

Airport, the Greater London Development Plan, and now the Stansted airport inquiries all raise questions about the possibility of consensus on major developments. But the Coin Street inquiry is not major in that sense. What it reveals is that politicians can and will overturn the entire system short term in the pursuit of short term political objectives. If that can happen so easily, is it not time to abandon the entire system?

Coin Street symbolizes an area of the Thames South Bank between the National Theatre and the empty King's Reach Hotel. In 1972, Lambeth Borough Council began consultations on a Local Plan for the area with the inhabitants, all relevant bodies, and the GLC as the county authority; all as provided for in the system. This lengthy but painstaking process selected Coin Street as the only possible remaining location for substantial residential development near the river-side.

The GLC agreed with that analysis, and issued a planning brief for that area retaining that residential component. The argument of the councils and the local people was that depopulation through lack of accommodation had become so acute that the surviving residents were insufficient in number to support schools, shops, doctors and like services. In short the same argument heard earlier from the inhabitants of Soho, Covent Garden and other parts of inner London. Without these additional houses in the Coin Street area, the community would rapidly expire.

Thus it was that all the procedures provided for under the various Town Planning Acts were satisfied, and design work began on building proposals (the sites being largely derelict). If the system had any validity at all, the conclusions were unassailable.

In May 1977, the GLC became Conservative-controlled. Within weeks it was known that the new administration did not consider itself bound to keep to the plan. Applications for office and hotel developments soon arrived, and were then coun-

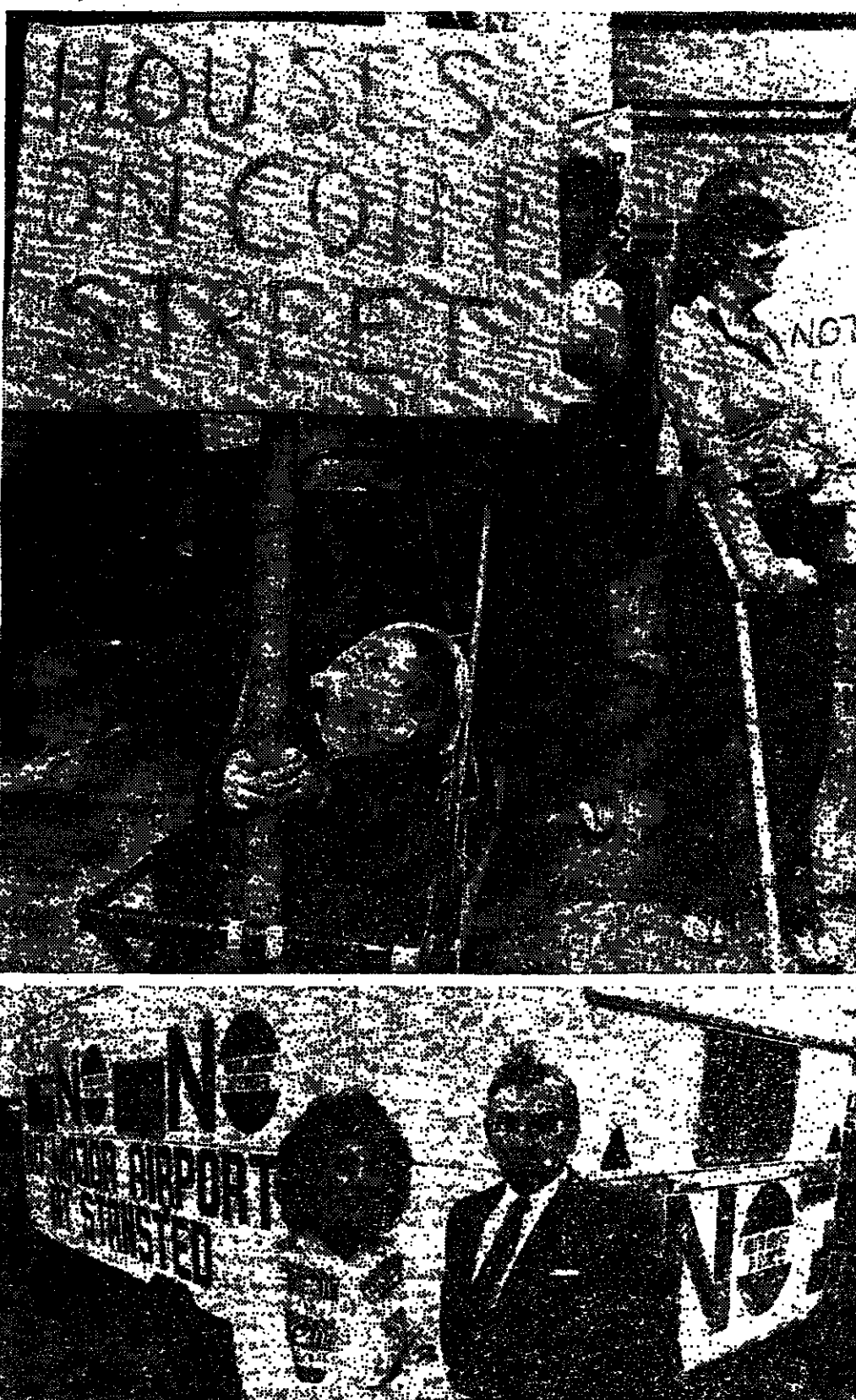
tered by an application from the local residents' associations themselves for the original proposals. The first public inquiry into the schemes opened in 1979, and in 1980, Mr Heseltine gave the judgment of Solomon. He accepted neither the commercial scheme — from Greycoat Estates, nor the local people's scheme, both on the grounds that each did not take sufficient account of an adequate balance of uses. New plans would therefore have to be submitted to a new inquiry. That second inquiry, now in session, is unlikely to finish before 1982.

However, Mr Heseltine's judgment contains in it the death of the planning system. By virtue of trying to promote compromise he has said by implication that the original Local Plan proposals were unacceptable and that the new GLC administration was not to reject them. Fair enough: the GLC has now changed back again, and the new administration has done exactly the same with the previous administration's proposals — save that the Conservatives sided the new administration's hands by giving Greycoat preemptive rights for a period of time should they get planning permission.

As for the arguments about the "national importance" of this site which justify a change in policy, we now know that the Royal Fine Art Commission should intervene? Should they not be involved during the planning process rather than trying to overturn it?

Finally, the architecture. Greycoat Estates has employed an outstanding architect to make acceptable basically anti-planning proposals, whereas the Association of Waterloo Groups has produced a humdrum scheme for basically correct proposals. Now would it not be interesting to speculate what London and the local community might have achieved had they employed Richard Rogers to consider how to design a scheme on this crucially important site?

Charles McKean  
Architectural Correspondent



Homes before development: a common theme for, top, young campaigner, and below, preservation association chairman John Lukies and organizer Sue Forsyth

## Gripped by the 'grin and bear it' illness

Banquets and receptions are generally considered pleasurable occasions; seldom are they associated with suffering. Similarly, a holiday meal or a night out with friends at a restaurant is rarely considered the precursor of illness. Yet such are the variable standards of food hygiene practice among institutional and contract caterers and restaurateurs that many of the 10,079 cases of food poisoning notified to town hall environmental health departments in England and Wales last year originated at these convivial gatherings.

Salmonella is the most serious, the most common, and the most pernicious form of food poisoning; a large majority of more than 6,000 cases of food poisoning officially recorded so far this year involved the salmonella bug. The Institution of Environmental Health Officers (IEHO) believes the figure to be many times greater each year because sufferers "grin and bear it" and do not visit their general practitioners.

It can kill, though it rarely does; there were 27 deaths recorded in England and Wales by the Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre in 1980, mostly through complications from other illnesses. But when the salmonella bacilli and microorganisms have identified more than 1,000 different strains — attack, they do with a vengeance. My wife fell victim to salmonella following an end-of-summer holiday meal at a first class hotel restaurant in France; and after an initial four-day onslaught of acute intestinal pain, nausea, diarrhoea and headaches now four weeks on she still harbours the bug despite prescribed counter-attacks by antibiotics.

"Salmonella recognizes no national boundaries," cautions Clive Wadey, assistant secretary of the IEHO, putting to flight fantasies held by many that food hygiene in Britain is somehow superior to that encountered beyond our shores.

"Our advantage, as far as the battle against bacilli is concerned, is one of climate," he continues. "They relish warmer climes, as they do hot kitchens."

Dr Spence Galbraith, director of the Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre (CDSC) at Colindale, north London, while not discounting good food hygiene practice — "It's essential," he says — points out that salmonella is unique among all food poisons in that it is derived from animals — rarely from man — and not from food itself.

"We must look to better husbandry of animals," he says. The IEHO echoes Dr Galbraith's words. In its annual report for 1980 the institution, concerned at the continuing level of salmonella food poisoning, says: "We have continued to press for a review of the poultry meat inspection service."

The Food Hygiene Laboratory — part of the Public Health Laboratory Service — claimed earlier this year that 400 million chickens eaten in

Britain each year contain salmonella. And it went on to add that in a sample survey of 100 frozen chickens from shops, 79 per cent were infected with salmonella.

"We recognize there is a problem though we do not believe figures are anywhere near as high as the FEHL report which was from a very small sample," says Mr Don Haxby, chairman of the poultry sub-committee of the British Veterinary Association (BVA) and a practising vet in the East Midlands.

But salmonella in poultry will not infect humans if, in the case of frozen birds, they are thoroughly defrosted, and if they are properly cooked. "Cooking kills salmonella," adds Mr Haxby.

The Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food sponsored "Protein Processing Order," which is intended to establish practices designed to eradicate disease from poultry feed, comes into effect next year.

Other farm animals — cows, sheep, pigs — in contrast to poultry seldom present sal-

monella problems because of regular and rigorous health checks and less intensive breeding according to Scottish vet Ian MacMillan chairman of the BVA's large animals committee.

"As far as meat is concerned salmonella infection is almost exclusively the result of bad hygiene practice in the kitchen," says the IEHO's Clive Wadey.

"In this jungle we somehow have to establish a degree of order," says Mr Wadey. "Where bacteria does not have a chance to establish itself in present circumstances I believe the best way forward is through education." Mandatory food hygiene education for supervisors and managers in food establishments is his aim.

Neither Dr Galbraith nor Mr Wadey expect to wipe out salmonella along with all the other food poisons. "But we can move a long way to reducing the chances of being poisoned by the meal that marks a happy event in one's life — a wedding maybe?"

Clive Lewis

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## THE TEST OF MR TEBBIT'S METAL

Can Mr Norman Tebbit fly? He has a rare opportunity. He is putting the finishing touches to what will be the last major trade union legislation by this Government and what may be the last legislation for a decade: a Labour government would attempt to reverse any effective measures, an SDP or coalition government might be inclined to leave matters alone, and a Tory Government with as strong-minded a Prime Minister as big a majority is not at the moment the likeliest prospect for the five years after 1982-3. There are two reasons why Mr Tebbit should seize his moment. There is a case concerned with justice and a case concerned with economics and his Bill must take account of both.

It is already certain that the Bill will contain a number of provisions to restrain the abuse of union power towards individual members and employers. Steps like guaranteeing redress to those deprived of work or denied it by a closed shop, and the nullification of contract clauses banning non-union labour are much needed safeguards. In the long run they may tend to make unions more accountable and less oppressive in their activities. All this is worthwhile in itself, but it is the policy of the low road. It would be an illusion to suppose that such changes even in aggregate can make much difference to the economic damage done to Britain by its present pattern of industrial bargaining. Equally, the inevitable protests that closed shop strikes would strike at the root of the legitimate functioning of British trade unions will largely be empty noise.

The high road to industrial reform means directly confronting the unequal balance of power which afflicts labour relations in Britain and impairs our industrial performance compared to that of our competitors. We do not lose an exceptional number of working days through industrial action, even in normal times, but strikes here are exceptionally damaging because they occur so suddenly and unpredictably, causing the greatest possible harm to production and to our reputation for meeting delivery schedules. Most are unofficial stoppages made in disregard of established procedures, or strikes by small groups whose work is

so essential to the running of a large enterprise that they threaten to bring the whole operation to a standstill.

Limiting these abuses without impairing the acknowledged needs of unions to carry out their function is not easy, but it is urgently desirable. It is already expected that the bill will seek to redefine the corporate immunity of unions from civil litigation so as to make them liable for unofficial action taken by members in defiance of procedural agreements. Such a clause could be the most effective possible way of changing the industrial balance, if employers proved ready to make use of it.

But the Government seems less interested in another course which could be potent. This is the proposal for a "lay-off clause" put forward by the Engineering Employers' Federation in their response to last winter's Green Paper. As industry becomes increasingly integrated, more and more small groups like computer operators and makers of essential components are acquiring the power to demand increases out of line with their less strategically placed colleagues. The cost of paying an idle workforce and the alternative cost of redundancies can leave an employer with no alternative but capitulation. Workers not on strike have no incentive to urge their colleagues back to work — and some incentive to wish them success, in hopes of following with similar claims of their own. As economic recovery reduces the number of cases where an employer can credibly protest that an extortionate settlement would put him out of business, the problem will grow in importance again.

Ideally, it should be for the employer to negotiate to ensure that individual contracts of employment provide for lay-offs in such circumstances. In parts of the motor industry and some other areas, laying workers off without pay because of lack of work is already an established practice; the law even lays down that a minimum of five days' pay must be given to workers when they are laid off. But in most cases contracts either have no provision for such a thing, or they are ambiguous. Most employers prefer not to take the risk of expensive litigation.

The Government seems inclined to leave the matter in

the private domain. In practice that means growing opportunities for exploitation by small groups. Renegotiation of contracts on any scale would be so slow and contentious as to be effectively impossible. Although it is generally better for legislation to avoid intervening to modify the effect of existing contracts, wider justice has sometimes been held to demand it: the law of landlord and tenant as well as employment law shows a number of examples.

The position of the disadvantaged party always has to be safeguarded, especially so in this case where he would be an innocent bystander to the dispute. His redundancy and pension rights should not be impaired in any way, and due notice should be required. It would be necessary for the employer's claim that a dispute existed serious enough to endanger his business to be open to challenge in formal proceedings, with provision for rehearing in changed circumstances. Real problems exist connected with the definition of a dispute and an employer (plant? company? group?). It would be against natural justice for employees to be statutorily laid off because of action against quite another company by members of a different union. But action by their own union to cut off supplies ought surely to be included.

These complexities are real but soluble if there is a really moderately ambitious civil servant at the Department of Employment could write a marvellous wrecking memorandum, and no doubt the clause would be caricatured as being against the worker. On the contrary the workers affected by disputes not of their making would benefit by the reduced risk of their company's resources being bled away and it is possible that no more than a few days' pay because disputes would tend to be shorter. The proposal does not encroach on the sacrosanct areas of collective bargaining and union immunity. It needs no union cooperation. It creates no threat of penal sanctions for those anxious to embrace martyrdom.

Mr Tebbit should therefore proceed boldly. The road before his entrance have made Mr Prior look like a mouse but that is more honest than being a cowardly lion.

## NEITHER HARD BORROWER NOR SOFT LENDER

Far more has been at stake in the discussion of India's request for a \$3bn loan from the International Monetary Fund than the merits of the specific case. The loan application has become the first test case of the Reagan Administration's determination to tighten up the terms on which the IMF provides funds to developing countries. Although India has been given the money, some of the conditions which it seems to have accepted and the nature of the debate suggest that the United States Administration has suffered what is at worst a kind of Pyrrhic defeat.

Little has emerged of the detailed conditions which the Indian government has accepted in return for its money from the IMF. But it is clear that behind its public position, that it would not accept outside interference in its running of the economy, the government of Mrs Gandhi has made some important concessions. Subsidies are to be reduced to bring down the government's budget deficit and domestic credit is to be restrained. Although the Fund has not insisted on a devaluation of the rupee, the programme involves a considerable degree of austerity. It is thus understandable that the Fund staff felt able to support the proposal, something which meant that what-

ever the doubts felt by the United States the loan was practically certain to go ahead.

Although it was never likely that the United States would manage to hold up the Indian loan request, it has succeeded in raising important questions about the direction in which the Fund has been moving. Traditionally, the IMF restricted its activities to providing short term financial assistance to countries facing an immediate balance of payments crisis. In recent years it has moved away from that role towards the debt crisis for countries which find themselves with deep-seated payments deficits. The length of time for which money has been lent has grown longer and the conditions imposed have become softer. At times, the Fund has seemed to have moved towards a position of underwriting continuing deficits.

That change was to a certain extent inevitable. The impact of the oil crisis forced all countries without large oil reserves into deficit. But there are grounds for thinking that things may have gone too far. Countries have turned to the IMF as a source of cheap finance to cover their payments deficits. The Fund, which relies on the resources provided by western nations and OPEC surplus countries, has shown signs of becoming a

source of soft lending at cut price rates.

There is some ground for hope that American Administration is getting its message across. In recent months the Fund has been looking very carefully at all major loan requests. It has clearly done so in the case of India and can be expected to be at least as strict in its treatment of other countries which go to it over the months ahead. The statement by the United States expressing its doubts about the wisdom of the Indian loan can be seen as a warning that if future actions by the Fund suggest that it is slipping back towards a soft line on lending the United States will, in the last resort, feel that it has the right to use its power to prevent a loan.

The India loan application would not have been the right occasion for that. The Administration's policy of trying to limit the growth of lending by the IMF and subjecting countries to the disciplines of the commercial market place will in any case have to be implemented with great skill. But the outlines of a more cautious approach from the Fund have begun to emerge, and the fact that India was successful in getting its money should not be taken by other countries as a signal that other applicants will necessarily get theirs.

## Local council spending

From Mr John Hiddle, MP for Lichfield and Tamworth (Conservative)

Sir, Local democracy is a fundamental good in a plural society but the root of the problem which the Local Government Finance Bill, so roundly criticised by your leading article of November 7, seeks to cure — is that local government is presently financed by taxes which do not bear directly upon the electorate.

The revenue from national taxes through grant and rates paid by the business ratepayer is over five times that of the domestic rate — the local tax bearing on local electors. Indeed the extravagant council should be held in check through fear of its own electorate. That is the underlying principle of local accountability.

The Bill is intended to curb the antics of a few high-spending councils, whose affairs are in the hands of the social engineers of the left, who are at once "bidding the hand that feeds them" and

manipulating an outdated rating system to achieve their own political ends; but in fact a much larger number of councils, including many who have faithfully carried out the Government's bidding since 1979, will be punished too.

The failure of the last Government to carry through the recommendations of the Layfield report and the inability of civil servants to produce proper solutions to the long-term problems of local government finance increase the pressure upon the Government to carry out a root-and-branch reform of the rating system. This will be popular politically, and will simultaneously strengthen local democracy.

Failure to reconcile permanently the relationship between central and local government will sound the death knell of local government and herald the "entrance of municipal socialism."

Meanwhile, I am haunted by a piece of graffiti written during the French students' riots in 1968:

"Referendum — to vote for one's own bail and chain!"

JOHN HIDDLE,  
House of Commons.

## Taken in vain

From Dr Boyd Hilton

Sir, Canon Shaw is right in saying (October 27) that the word "theology" is used too much nowadays and that it is unfair to blame God for mistakes made by governments. But he has probably underestimated the extent to which economic theories are, and have always been, based on assumptions about the nature of man and the moral order of society which can properly be called "theological." As Mrs Thatcher said in *The Observer* (May 3, 1981), "economics are only the beginning; the object is to change the nation's soul."

Yours faithfully,  
BOYD HILTON,  
Trinity College,  
Cambridge.

هكذا من الفضل

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Life and death responsibilities for handicapped children

From Mr Roger Gray, Q.C.

Sir, The Reverend N. M. de S. Cameron (November 9) criticised Sir Alfred Ayer (article November 6) for failing to perceive the consequences of his own arguments when defending the proposition that, in certain circumstances, a handicapped child should be allowed to die. But he has perceived the consequences of his own downgrading of the interests of the parents?

It is quite true that it would be highly dangerous to open too many doors so as to allow the lives of innocent individuals to be subordinate to the interests of others. For instance, one of the strongest arguments against the acceptance of euthanasia is that it would open a door for evil-doers who would use it as a means of getting rid of their victims. But the position of the handicapped child is quite different.

The child is brought into the world, in the great majority of cases, by virtue of the love of the mother and father. The child is theirs. It is they who will have to care for it. It does not belong to society as a whole. It is only if one takes the view that in some way all babies are state property that one runs the risk of the idea of state extermination, to which the Reverend N. M. de S. Cameron refers. It was such a philosophy which caused the Spartans to put out their sickly children to die in the hills and gave rise to Hitlerian theories about a master race.

Once a corporate element is introduced into an issue such as this, there can be no safe or clear thought about it.

If, however, one starts from the point that the individual child is the product of individual parents, who are not only its creators but its rightful guardians, then the argument for allowing them to make a decision about the life or death of the child is overwhelming. The state or the law should only intervene if their decision is plainly irresponsible or criminal. The fact is that up to now nobody has regarded it as unreasonable or abnormal for a parent to permit doctors to allow handicapped children to die in circumstances similar to those of the Dr Arthur case. The practice has been in existence for generations and has been accepted as comprehensible and ethical.

Things have happened in recent years to cause the present controversy. First, organisations such as Life have infiltrated the hospitals to inform on the practice and there is now an army of social workers who think they know better what is good for the child than do the parents. Second, medical science has enabled a lot of injured babies to live when previously they would have died, whatever the care devoted to them.

The first of these developments is greatly to be deplored, in that it undermines the only safe basis for a civilized and liberty-loving society, namely the recognition of parental responsibility and the need to keep state intervention in this sphere to the minimum.

As for the second development, there can be no desire to stop it because it may bring cures where hitherto there were none. But, although it may make it more difficult for doctors to give advice and parents to make a decision, it is surely not a reason in itself for any titillation or outcry.

Yours faithfully,  
ROGER GRAY,  
Queen Elizabeth Building,  
Temple, EC4,  
November 9.

From Mr Robert Heller

Sir, No good would have been served by the conviction of Dr Arthur. But the sad death of his little patient, John Pearson, may yet do good if the public issues raised by this private tragedy are, unlike their innocent protagonist, kept alive.

First, why should the rejection of a child by its parents be a factor, let alone the sole criterion, in deciding whether that child, handicapped or not, should live or die? Suppose the father had died previously and the mother died in childbirth. Would any paediatrician then dare withhold food or medical treatment from their offering, simply because the only alternatives (as with a rejected handicapped child) were adoption, fostering, or life in an institution? Further, if it is right and proper that a child should die on rejection at birth, at what age does it become wrong?

Second, on what grounds is a doctor justified in denying food to a newborn child, who would otherwise possibly live and whose strongest urge, as any parent knows, is to take suck? Of course, the hunger pangs may be treated by sedation. Of course, the child is quite likely to be carried off by some infection or complication before it dies of malnutrition. But the practice is no more civilized than that of the ancient Spartans, who exposed feeble children on the mountain side. "Nursing care only" is a death warrant, and it is hypocrisy to pretend otherwise.

Parental rejection and denial of food alike serve as a smokescreen that hides from doctor and public the fact that it is the doctor and the doctor alone who really makes the life-or-death decision — and who executes it. There are many tragic cases where the decision does pose a genuine doctor's dilemma.

But Down's Syndrome is not, per se, among those cases. Those

Down's children who survive the increased perils of their infancy (which apparently include the possibility of being put down like unwanted kittens) have good prospects of health and happiness. True, they all have relatively low intelligence and relatively great dependence on others. But can that be any reason to deny life to these gentle people? Surely, society should defend them. They can hardly defend themselves.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT HELLER,  
53 Fitzroy Park, N6.

From Mr John Foster

Sir, The trial of Dr. Arthur has made clear, what some of us have long suspected, that many paediatricians are practicing a form of "euthanasia" on handicapped babies who have been rejected by their parents — a form of euthanasia which is morally indefensible and, despite the verdict in the Arthur case, probably illegal.

The paediatricians prefer to describe their practice not as killing, but as "letting nature take its course." But it is hard to see how the withholding of food and basic medical care, with the intention that the baby should die, could be so construed, particularly in cases where the baby's handicap would not, with normal treatment, be fatal.

They also stress, as if these were some sort of defence, that they only withhold normal treatment in cases where the parents wish the child to die. But this is no defence at all, either moral or legal. The charge which has to be met is that they have violated the rights of the child, not the rights of the parents. The violation is not lessened simply because those who should be most concerned for the child's protection consent to it.

It is also sometimes claimed that, because of his handicap, the life which the child forfeits is not worth living. But many people who have handicaps do lead happy and creative lives. The most that could be said is that handicap makes the achievement of a worth while life more difficult, but this is a reason for devoting more time and resources to helping the handicapped overcome their difficulties, not a reason for terminating their lives before the difficulties arise.

It is a sad reflection on the current ethical standards of the medical profession and the moral values of the wider society which it serves that those babies who, by reason of their handicaps, stand in most need of paediatric care and who, by reason of their parents' rejection, stand in most need of legal protection should be so shamefully treated.

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN FOSTER,  
Brasenose College, Oxford.

### Burdens and benefits

From Mr Alan Walker

Sir, May I correct one important misconception implied by your otherwise admirable leader, "Burdens and benefits" (October 29). People with disabilities should indeed expect exemption from cuts in their benefits which are widely acknowledged to be inadequate. But sadly, that is not the case.

On the eve of the International Year of the Disabled the Government cut invalidity benefit by 5 per cent (a loss of £1.15 a week for a single person) and dependants' allowances were increased by only £5.5 per cent instead of £6.5 per cent.

This cut applies throughout the international year and must be borne by 650,000 people with disabilities until benefits are taxed, even though the Government acknowledges that most of them will not be liable to pay tax. The reduction in child dependency additions has been repeated in 1981.

These cuts fly in the face of official and independent evidence on the close link between disability and poverty, and also of Conservative election promises to implement a comprehensive disability income.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN WALKER,  
Lecturer in Social Policy,  
Department of Sociological Studies,  
The University of Sheffield,  
Sheffield,  
November 3.

### Nationality Act

From Lord Campbell of Alloway, QC

Sir, Under the British Nationality Act the judiciary is prevented from entertaining any challenge to the rectitude of any exercise of ministerial discretion: even when "unreasonable" in the sense in which the term is used in public administrative law.

There are of course certain areas (such as the nationalization cases) which, according to tradition, lie within the exclusive province of the Executive. But assuredly there are other areas which do not. So once again the question arises as to whether an administrative court should be set up under some statute having overriding effect, to ensure that in general (subject to exceptions) all decisions of the Executive would be open to full review at the suit of any subject having a legitimate interest.

If such measures were to be set in train before the British Nationality Act takes effect in 1983 certain tensions would be allayed, and a measure of reasoned objection as recorded in Hansard would be met.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
CAMPELL OF ALLOWAY,  
1 Barcourt Buildings,  
Temple, EC4,  
November 2.

### Mr Foot's style at the Cenotaph

From Dr Aileen Ribeiro

Sir, With regard to the somewhat eccentric costume worn by the Leader of the Opposition at the Remembrance Day service in Whitehall yesterday, it might be apt to recall the words of the eighteenth-century writer Giuseppe Baretti, who commented on hearing a sermon preached against dress extremes, to be sure, are extremes; and the variety of dressing may be carried so far as to be ridiculous; yet sinful it can scarcely ever be; therefore if I were a preacher, I would never bestir upon this point, because I have observed that people well dressed have in general a kind of respect for themselves, and whoever respects himself, does a very good thing.

Baretti was writing at a time when the London populace would attack verbally, and sometimes physically, passers-by in the streets whose style of dress was thought inappropriate, usually because it was over-elaborate or foreign; Baretti had suffered in this way when he first came to London.

It is clear that, although we sometimes pretend that dress is a trivial matter (and it looks as though Mr Foot has an indifference to his appearance that is almost Johnsonian) any divergence from the accepted mode on certain occasions can still arouse the passions.

Yours faithfully,  
AILEEN RIBEIRO,  
History of Dress Department,  
University of London,  
Courtauld Institute of Art,  
20 Porchester Square, W.1.  
November 9.

From Mr Peter Cotes

Sir, The matter of the Leader of HM Opposition and his mode of dress at this year's Armistice Day ceremony has surely got out of hand. There are too many really important issues for the media and certain members of Parliament to bother their heads about as it is. When Air Vice-Marshal Charles Maughan, General Secretary of the British Legion, was asked to comment by your newspaper he was reported to have said: "What people wear is entirely their own matter, as long as they attend in the right spirit."

Nobody who has known Michael Foot down the years can doubt that he "attended in the right spirit"; indeed his courage and humanity during a long career of public service have done him more honour than observing the mere trappings of publicly-expressed grief.

It was to the great credit of the Queen Mary, that when George V died no blinds were lowered by her orders and no windows were darkened on the death of the Monarch. Real grief needs no such adventitious publicity as the show of external "mourning" demanded by the wearing of a black tie; surely an optional matter and hardly worthy of the "note" accorded by your diarist in his column today (November 9).

To enforce on others a command as to how it is proper to respect the memory of dead from both wars is to rob death of its dignity and sympathy of its spontaneity.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER COTES,  
Savage Club,  
9 Fitzmaurice Place,  
Berkeley Square, W.1.  
November 9.

From Mrs Hilary Dyer

Sir, A polite refusal to attend the Cenotaph service from Mr Foot would have caused surprise and mild debate, but we are a tolerant race well aware of different opinions and happy that we all have the freedom to enjoy them.

Mr Foot's behaviour was indeed a grave insult to those who fought bravely so that he might hold his views and will have saddened many Labour voters. Why do politicians so badly misjudge the reactions of the people?

Yours faithfully,  
HILARY DYER,  
1 Bradley Gardens,  
West Ealing, W13.  
November 9.

### Trap for the stroller

From Mr Clancy Sigal

Sir, Its vast parks are among London's enduring glories. Why then must they be turned into traps for the unwary? This Sunday evening, shortly after 5 pm, I was strolling through Hyde Park when a Park Police van sped past announcing, in a static-ridden and almost incomprehensible way, that the park was closing and for the public to leave by the nearest exit.

Alas, although I moved promptly, all the nearest exits were securely locked. It was only by luck that I found a gate, half a mile away from my starting point, that was just then being swung shut.

What happens to the unlucky? It can be rather frightening to be lost in a dark, locked park at night. Of course, they can always climb over the iron railings. But what of the elderly and disabled?

Sincerely,  
CLANCY SIGAL,  
19 Wigmore Street, W1.  
November 1.

### Bar sinister?

From the Reverend Charles Robertson

Sir, Your picture "Heralding a new Parliament" (November 6) is magnificent, but can anyone explain why there were no Scottish Heralds and Purveyors present at the state opening of what is, after all, the Parliament of the United Kingdom?

Is there a bar to their presence, or is it that they have never been invited to take their proper part in this important event?

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
CHARLES ROBERTSON,  
Master of the Camongate,  
Edinburgh.  
November 6.







THE ARTS

Television

Gripping nostalgia

Brideshead is almost at half-way point. No doubt Waugh would have gone up in a puff of incense at the thought of his diffident offering being elasticated to 11 episodes but he did tend towards sudden incandescence and, in the event, protest would have been needless: television has taken over and it is unlikely now that those who have marked this far are going to drop out.

Some will have fallen by the wayside, perhaps thinking it a pity that gilded youth in the Twenties did not have larger problems to get drunk over, or baffled by God's spasmodic and enigmatic intrusions into this affluent milieu. Those who remain must surely be fastened to by the spectacle, the nostalgia, the memory of days when shirts went over the head, when cigarette cases could be tapped for confidence, when being well-to-do consisted of having lots of little odds and ends, all of them expensive. We used to see such knick-knacks at the pictures in the Thirties and, if we lacked them, it was a kind of possession.

The novel has now receded. Some have said what a bad novel it was anyway, but John Mortimer has kept the language and that makes one think it would be wonderful to write a bad novel half as good.

Our mental images have now given way to television's so that Jeremy Irons is Charles Ryder and Anthony Andrews is Sebastian Flyte. The first is a little too quicksilver for me but not for the camera, the second is a bit reminiscent of a fighter who has just been told he should not go out for the next round — but these are quibbles against an enthralling setting.

Now where were we last night? Well, Sebastian was still on the sauce, Lady Marchmain was exuding an air of righteousness over her little hall on earth, Charles Ryder was seeing Sebastian evaporate from his loving clasp, and it was a big, unhappy, almost regal Christy with a worn New Year to follow, a golden world of disenchantment.

I found it the most impressive episode so far, full of good acting and superb visual touches like the one where the egotistical Sanger, the ubiquitous doorman and hanger-on, well played by John Grillo, caught in a moment of discomfiture, inserted a slide upside down in his magic lantern.

The characters are still emerging. Claire Bloom's Lady Marchmain is now a focal point, glimpsed once in this episode, no doubt for the first and last time, in the garden room with her hair slightly askew but, for the rest, elegantly implacable: abnegation for her would be an affront.

Phoebe Nicholls comes along splendidly as Cordelia, the perennial younger sister, part puppy, part pain in the neck, and sharing the last quality rather with Sebastian's brother Bridger, whom Simon Jones excellently restrains from coming completely to life. Then there is Gielgud, a magnificent diversion with his exquisite, eccentric cameo.

Onwards then to whatever I shall revisit next week.

Dennis Hackett

Dance

Australian strike

Dancers of the Australian Ballet are to meet their board today in the first move towards a possible settlement since they went on strike nearly three weeks ago. The dispute has already caused the cancellation of performances in Melbourne, Brisbane and Sydney. All hope of salvaging an intended run of *Swan Lake* at the Regent Theatre, Sydney, appears to have been abandoned; the question now is whether work could resume in time for the company's latest production, *The Prince of Nocturne*, to be given at Sydney Opera House as announced on November 27.

As reported in *The Times* last week, the immediate occasion of the strike was the offer to principal dancers of new contracts for 1982 which involved either a cut in pay and status, or more than the four performances a week which had been agreed by an arbitration board. Underlying discontent, however, arises from a belief among the dancers, which is shared by many informed observers outside the company, that artistic standards have been allowed to fall because they were subordinated to business considerations.

Control of the company is seen as being effectively in the hands of the administrator, Mr Peter Bahen. His skill and drive are not in question, but the dancers complain of an uninspiring repertoire, insufficient preparation for their roles and a brusque refusal to discuss their requests.

Their spokesman, Kelvin Coe, told me that at a company meeting on Monday support for the strike remained unanimous. The dancers recognize that, if their demands are not met, that could lead to the break-up of the company, but they say they would prefer that outcome to a continuation of past policies, and they hope that in the long run a fresh start will be made.

One solution that has been canvassed is the appointment of an artistic coordinator to have equal standing with Mr Bahen, whose functions would then be confined entirely to business matters. Whether that would work probably depends largely on the readiness of the board to change their attitudes; until now they have refused even to listen to the dancers' complaints.

Meanwhile, the dancers are organizing a gala performance to raise funds and have been heartened by the support of fellow professionals not only in Australia but around the world.

John Percival

Dana Reitz

Almeida

Coming in a half-circle to the centre of the Almeida's open stage, Dana Reitz pauses, takes three steps forward, then back, repeats the phrasing (but with changes of step or timing) until she has the rhythm established in the audience's minds as well as her own, then proceeds to vary it like a musician improvising a set of variations on a simple theme. Her dance *Steps* is as simple as that, which means in fact that it is very difficult because it is to hold the attention without any show of virtuosity, drama or prettiness.

(which can vary, she says, but on Monday mine was 15 minutes), her hands are cutting an elaborate series of sharp gestures around her upper body; and in her second dance, *Changing Score*, it was the hands rather than the feet that seemed to take the lead in developing the patterns. Then as an encore she performed *Steps 2*, which she explained as being based on a mixture of the other two dances. Yet thanks to her process of constantly reworking the basic material in performance, most of it looked new.

Dana Reitz comes from New York and is the last of the overseas performers during this year's Dance Umbrella season (which continues with indigenous offerings until Sunday). To some extent, it is to be expected that the standard should be higher among the guests than the native talent, since they have all been specially picked, whereas Umbrella has a duty, in return for public funding, to show as many local performers as possible.

Even making all possible allowances, however, it is obvious that Britain could not field a team to compete with the skill and adventurousness of Melissa Fienley, Karole Armitage, Eiko and Koma, Dana Reitz, Bill T. Jones and others who came from New York to dance here during the season. All the same, it is notable that the general standard of the season has been higher this time, and the existence of Dance Umbrella is undoubtedly a factor in that rise.

Another time, perhaps, there should be a little more variety, or, alternatively, less intensive season. But the need for some such activity is now clearly proved. That is one of many reasons why the threat to the future of Riverside Studios is so shocking. More than half of the London performances took place there, and it is the best stage in London for the kind of dance Umbrella does best. Preserving Riverside, like preserving Sadler's Wells, should rank high on any civilized order of priorities.

John Percival

Cinema

When silence really was golden

After *Napoleon*, the London Film Festival

presents another lavish recreation of the

cinematic past in King Vidor's *The Crowd*.

David Robinson investigates the forgotten

magic of the silent era.

Few people alive today know what the silent cinema was really like. We have been conditioned to believe that silent films were simply an imperfect stage in the evolution of the cinema as we know it today, a medium still lacking and waiting for a vital technological element.

The shock of the revival of Abel Gance's 1927 *Napoleon* has done much to shake this misconception. At its best, the silent film was a self-sufficient and autonomous art form. The historian Richard Griffith, writing only a few years after the event, summed up what had been lost with its demise.

"Whatever improvements it might have developed if it had survived a few years longer, the silent film at its best had by 1928 attained singular completeness as a human experience. To walk into a darkened theatre, to focus upon a bright rectangle of moving light, to listen somewhat below the level of consciousness to music which was no longer good or bad in itself but merely in relation to what was on the screen, and above all to watch, in a kind of charmed, hypnotic trance a pattern of images which appeared and disappeared as capriciously as those pictures which involuntarily present themselves to the mind as it is dropping off to sleep — but which, also like those of the mind, gradually mount to a meaning of their own — this was an experience complete and unique, radically unlike that provided by the older arts or by the other new media of mass communication. It bade fair to become the characteristic art-experience of our time."

Silent films, as Griffith indicates, were never meant to be silent. To see them flickering, in scratchy, washed-out copies, on film society screens, accompanied only by the whirr of the projector, or at best a hi-o-miss piano, is as misleading as seeing *Giselle* without its music or *Turner* in black-and-white, half-tone reproductions.

The very rare occasions

when silent films are shown as they were intended — the *Napoleon* screenings earlier this year or the 1976 performance of *Broken Blossoms* in St Mark's Square, Venice — reveal an aesthetic experience that is unique and incomparable.

It is perhaps the only instance in history of an art form that was not merely outmoded by fashion and technology, but driven into total extinction by economic circumstances. Even by the end of the 1920s, the expense of maintaining full orchestras in any but the grandest city cinemas was beginning to tell. Today the cost is altogether prohibitive, and the orchestral performances of *Napoleon* and *The Crowd* — which the London Film Festival is presenting as this year's follow-up — have only been possible thanks to the imaginative sponsorship of Thames Television, which has the potential of silent cinema by their own Hollywood series.

The £7 which audiences will pay at the three showings of *The Crowd* represents barely half the real cost: each seat is subsidized by at least the same amount again.

The contrast between *The Crowd* and *Napoleon* shows the range of silent cinema. *Napoleon* is epic; *The Crowd* is intimate and realistic. The realism of *The Crowd*, indeed, was something entirely revolutionary in its day. The reward for us, 54 years on, is the vividness with which it evokes a place and period now almost as remote as Napoleonic France. It shows the underside of America on the eve of Depression, an area of society that had never shared the boom, prosperity and euphoria of the Coolidge years.

The director, King Vidor, earned the freedom to make his film as a result of the spectacular box office success of his first World War epic, *The Big Parade*. The enlightened production head of MGM, Irving Thalberg, not only agreed to a film about everyday life in New York, but a hero and heroine whose problems — money, a job, babies, a place to live — were

those of most of the audience, he also, according to Vidor, suggested the title.

Vidor picked his leading man literally out of the crowd — a charming, 26-year-old Irish hick, James Murray, whom he found among the extras. Murray gave a performance of astonishing conviction and appeal. Afterwards he was unable to adjust to success, drifted into alcoholism, and died a few years later, in the Hudson River. Vidor's then wife, Eleanor Boardman (who, as the *Hollywood* series revealed, remains even today one of the world's great beauties) subdued her natural glamour to the role of the working-class heroine.

Vidor's most remarkable achievement was to combine uncompromising realism (he went so far as to shoot in the streets with a camera hidden in a handcart) with sophisti-

cated formal methods learnt from the German cinema of the day. *The Crowd* is, indeed, in its way, the apogee of Expressionist cinema. The Expressionist element is never imposed or extraneous, but always serves the emotional content of the endless, menacing stairway the boy mounts to his father's deathbed; the final shot, with the camera pulling back and upwards to return the hero to the crowd from which he first came.

The opening is justly famous, as one of the great virtuoso scenes in silent movies. The camera surveys New York, then, in a vast, almost impossible, seamless, menacing stairway the boy mounts to his father's deathbed; the final shot, with the camera pulling back and upwards to return the hero to the crowd from which he first came.

Of the silent-screen actor is seen at its most complete and accomplished. "You had the feeling, as director", Vidor has recalled, "that you could think anything and it would come through on the face. We had a sense of communication."

The music, as for *Napoleon*, has been composed and arranged by Carl Davis. The inspiration here, he says, has been Gershwin and jazz; and the 40-piece Wren Orchestra will be augmented by a jazz combination. "I guarantee", says Davis, "that the audience will be in tears within the first reel. Silent films, shown as they were intended, have an emotional power quite beyond what we are used to in today's cinema."

The London festival, learning from the battle for seats for last year's showing of *Napoleon*, has scheduled three showings of *The Crowd*, on November 19 and 22, so that it

is one of the few festival events for which tickets are still available.

The festival will revive another of the screen's forgotten marvels, *Magnascope*, when it presents a newly-discovered, colour-tinted print of Schoedsack and Cooper's 1927 jungle epic *Chang*. Introduced in 1924 by Lorenzo del Riccio, *Magnascope* is a method of suddenly and dramatically enlarging the screen image at suitable moments, to four times its normal size. It was first used in *Old Traders* and Vidor's *The Big Parade* and contemporary writers testify to the excitement it produced. The process was intermittently revived over the years, and was seen as late as 1962 when it was used in the USA to set off the various natural marvels in the Marilyn Monroe vehicle *Niagara*. In *Chang* it augments the thrill of a stunningly short elephant stampede.

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The Brothers Karamazov

Fortune

Moving from Edinburgh to London via a two-week detour through the USSR (said to be the first British company to go there for eight years), this Brighton Theatre production has the Jack Ruby who has eluded the Richard Crane-Faynia Williams partnership.

Their collaborative variations on Russian classics — *Bulgakov*, *Gogol*, *Pushkin*, and now *Dostoevsky* — have established them as the one good reason for visiting the Edinburgh fringe; but I rather wish that London were seeing their *Eugene Onegin* instead of the present piece.

Like its predecessors, *Brothers Karamazov* is offered as "a new play by Richard Crane" and makes good this claim not only through freedom of adaptation but also by filtering the original work through a modern sensibility. In this case (drawing on my favourite recollection of the novel) Mr Crane has compressed the events in a way that radically alters their tone. The piece splits into two parts, equally divided by the interval, the first leading up to the murder of the wicked old Fyodor, and the second examining which of his four sons was guilty of the deed. Dostoevsky's own characters are all too keen to own up; but in Mr Crane's version this really does become a case of "Don't all rush at once". The looming Dostoevskian pres-

ence and the sense of claustrophobic doom are removed, and in their place we get a sequence of mock-confessions, and cross-talk routines on the relative probability of the brass pestle or the paper-weight as the murder weapon, which Joe Orton would not have dissipated to have written.

With this emphasis on the usually suppressed comedy, Mr Crane paves the way for a full explosion of Slavie fervour in the prosecuting lawyer's speech, describing his country as a "troika hurtling towards the mirage of the West" — as exemplified in the nihilistic and anarchic lives of the two elder brothers.

The cost of this approach is that we reach an exposition only in the second half and those whose memories of the book are even fainter than mine may be left without a clue to what is going on. Casting is ingeniously split between a company of four, each with a main character to play, but also doubling supporting parts without the least confusion: whoever wears the fur coat becomes Fyodor; Peter Kelly and Will Knightley recede like cats in the two sirens Katerina and Grushenka. Within their main roles, too, they share with Bruce Alexander and Stephen Boxer an ability to switch like lightning to opposite emotional extremes. Mr Boxer also contributes part-songs fully within the Russian idiom and integral to the production's narrative drive.

Irving Wardle

Theatre

Timon of Athens

Warehouse

Rarity might be enough recommendation for a visit to *Timon of Athens*, for not even the Royal Shakespeare Company has been exactly prolific with productions of one of Shakespeare's most intriguing minor plays. Its last version was John Schlesinger's production of 1965.

There are as well more immediate recommendations. Ron Daniels has bedecked moments of the play in modish theatrical garb, momentarily introducing three celestial judges who seem to have strayed from Brecht's *Good Person of Szechuan*, but who are not to be taken seriously in the way of his general clarity.

As he has staged it, the story falls neatly into two halves. In the first part there is a plain wooden platform which serves as an unusually oriental Athens and is the scene of feasting at the home of Timon, where his legendary generosity can be well displayed.

Timon is the man who repays the gift of a horse with 20 better horses for the giver. He showers his friends with such offerings that they have grown wealthy on his kindness, while he himself has lost all his money and land. When it becomes his turn to beg a little kindness, his friends abandon him and he turns himself out into the wilderness, cultivating a deep and vengeful misanthropy.

With Richard Pasco at first

all gentle civility and sympathy, the character of Timon is acceptably real. He fills his lines with sweet reason, certain that human nature is giving time. That sensibly kind approach is a sound and enticing basis of character, and marvellously contrasted to the dour philosopher of misanthropy, Apemantus.

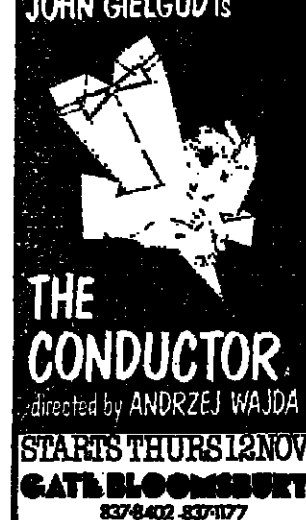
In the second part of the play, when Timon is ravaging against mankind from his solitude — where the earth has ironically endowed him with a new fortune in gold — he will again confront Apemantus. Mr Pasco's generosity in his early life has allowed even kind words for Apemantus, but he and John Carls are subtly and amusingly matched in hatred when they meet again, with a philosophical debate that declines into a slanging match.

The attractions of the play are varied, and though great speeches are not abundant, there are echoes of lines and situations that evoke the best of Shakespeare. Timon amid the ragged trappings of Chris Dyer's nautical wilderness at the end is not unlike Lear, and there is a shadowy reflection of the warring exile Coriolanus in the character of Alcibiades, a soldier in sympathy with Timon and likewise an outcast from Athens.

Ned Chaillet

an eloquent performance

JOHN GIELGUD is



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Opera

Tosca

Covent Garden

Ten years ago a young man by the name of Placido Domingo made his Covent Garden debut as Cavaradossi, and on Monday he returned to the same house and the same role. But not quite as the same tenor. In 1971 Mr Domingo was hardly still a promising newcomer, but even so the last decade has seen a vast growth in his reputation, his achievements and the scope of his musicianship. He has surely recorded a greater number of parts than any other singer in the history of the gramophone, and he has extended himself beyond the Italian lyric tenor repertoire which is his natural homeland to score great successes in French music, and even latterly in popular song and conducting.

What is most remarkable, after all this experience, is that he should still be performing with complete fresh-

wrapped tone. And in the third, his great aria was built as a single arc, rising to fierce passion without ever losing the gentleness, the vulnerability that is this singer's great gift. Then in his soprano solo there was a telling of the most beautiful, telling quietness and candour.

As in 1971 his Tosca was impressive here in her duel with Scarpia, where she used the flare in her voice to suggest not the tigress but a woman essentially innocent and very much afraid. Ingvar Wixell as the police chief was thus able to work around her like a beast of prey, booming or cajoling but always heavy and a threat. The revival also boasts splendidly dramatic orchestral playing under Silvio Varviso, with the emphasis on detail: horns roaring through the texture in protest, solo clarinet or bassoon in eloquent support. But still this is really Mr Domingo's evening.

Another surprise was that Cavaradossi is still a role that interests Domingo. In the second act he took the trouble to make a point in every little phrase, to extend a perfect line as he fell forward across the floor, never allowing torture to be an excuse for

Concert

Claudio Arrau

Festival Hall

The main point about Claudio Arrau's playing on Monday was its sense of structure. Of course, one's ear was ravished by his tone, unfailingly rounded and mellifluous, and by his seamless legato. But his perceptions were such as to bring the essential purpose of every note into focus, even when there were very many of them, as in Liszt's *Dante Sonata*; in fact especially there. This articulation of the texture in the texture, as in Beethoven's Sonata, Op 27 No 1, whose opening and some other passages were like a gentle, abstracted murmur.

Schumann's *Symphonic Studies* was in some respects the most problematic work on his programme. Obviously it contains great music, but it can sound ramshackle as a whole; though not this time. The different aspects of Mr Arrau gave cannot, admittedly, be separated, but the feeling of

Concert

Claudio Arrau

Festival Hall

unity that one experienced from the first note to the last here was obviously related to the effortless flow of the actual piano playing.

Mr Arrau's repertoire has always been uncommonly large, and he took us to other worlds very different from those of Beethoven and Schumann. The *Estampes* exert a more directly sensuous appeal, but on this occasion *La Soiree dans Grenade* and *Jardins sous la pluie* were above all respectively slow and fast demonstrations of Debussy's great innovations relating to the structural role of tone-colour in music.

After hearing Mr Arrau's performance, one finds it difficult not to regard Chopin's F Minor Fantasy as his greatest work. Overwhelmingly impressionistic, it was one of size; and this had nothing to do with leisurely tempos. Then a feast of musical virtuosity in Liszt's *Dante Sonata*.

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Max Harrison

NT NATIONAL THEATRE (Cottesloe)

Arnold Wesker's new play

CARITAS

Patti Love (above), with Frederick Treves is "DEVASTATING" (Guardian)

"REMARKABLE" (Times)

"BRILLIANT" (New Standard)

Max Harrison



## GLC fares cut in excess of powers

Regina v. The Greater London Council, Ex parte Bromley London Borough Council

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Oliver and Lord Justice Watkins.

[Judgment delivered November 10]

The London Transport Executive is under a duty to carry out its functions in a businesslike way and the decision of the Greater London Council to issue a supplementary rate precept in order to implement the commitment in the election manifesto of the majority party on the council to reduce fares by 25 per cent was an abuse of the council's powers and ultra vires.

The Court of Appeal allowed with costs an appeal by Bromley London Borough Council from the judgment of the Divisional Court (Lord Justice Dunn and Mr Justice Phillips) on November 3 (The Times, November 4) holding that the Greater London Council (GLC) was entitled to impose a supplementary precept on London boroughs in order to pay for the reduced fares introduced on London Transport's bus and underground services by an order of 25 per cent from October 4, 1981.

An order of certiorari was issued to quash the precept.

The Transport (London) Act 1969 provides by section 1: "... it shall be the general duty of the Greater London Council (... the Council) to develop policies, and to encourage, organize and, where appropriate, carry out measures, which will promote the provision of integrated, efficient and economic transport facilities and services for Greater London."

By section 3 the council have power to make grants to London Transport Executive (LTE) ("the Executive").

Mr David Widdicombe, QC and Mr Barry Sales for Bromley, Mr Peter Weitzman, QC and Mr James Goudie for the GLC; Mr John Drinkwater, QC and Mr Christopher Lockhart-Mummary for London Transport.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that on May 7 there was an election for the GLC in which a manifesto was issued.

In it they promised that if they were elected they would within six months cut the fares in London's buses and tubes by 25 per cent. They did win the election. They kept their promise.

In October the London Transport Executive (LTE) cut fares by 25 per cent. The travelling public were well pleased. But not the ratepayers. They were required to contribute £6m to pay for the reduced fares.

All three members of the court were far-reaching passengers and benefited from the cut in fares. They were also ratepayers in Greater London who had to pay the increased rate imposed by the supplementary precept. No objection had been taken by any party to their hearing the case.

In order to enforce the payment, the GLC made a supplementary precept, an order directed to the 35 London boroughs commanding them to raise the necessary funds. The London boroughs reluctantly obeyed.

But Bromley had challenged the validity of the whole proceedings and applied for an order of certiorari to quash the supplementary precept.

On May 7 the Labour Party won the election. That was interpreted by its spokesman as a clear mandate, commitment and promise to cut the fares by 25 per cent.

On May 12 there was a meeting between Mr Kenneth Livingstone, the leader of the council and Sir Peter Massfield, the chairman of LTE. There were no minutes of the meeting. It was reasonable to infer that Sir Peter was told that the council intended to put into immediate effect the policy of a reduction of fares by 25 per cent. Sir Peter was asked to produce proposals for a new fare structure and a revised budget for 1981.

A report to the transport committee of June 2 recorded that LTE had been instructed to submit proposals by July 1 for an immediate 25 per cent reduction in fares.

On June 9 LTE submitted a memorandum and issued a press release stating the requirement of a 25 per cent cut.

The officers of the council were

looking into the effect upon the rates and pointing out that ratepayers would have to pay heavy penalties because of the loss of the "block grant" from the central government. The council faced a loss of over £9m as a result of a decision to finance the fare reduction from the rates.

On July 7 the council decided to implement the cut in full notwithstanding the burden on the ratepayers. On July 10 the Comptroller of Finance reported setting out a total supplementary precept of £117.3m of which £69m was accounted for by fares reduction and other policy changes. Total precept equivalent of 6.1p.

On July 15 the council said that the cut in fares by 25 per cent and keeping London Transport out of the red would be a 6.1p rate, but that vindictive government policies would double the cost to ratepayers without any benefit to Londoners. The proposed supplementary precept of 6.1p in the pound to be levied from October 1 would cost £117.3m.

That was made up of £69.1m for fares and other policy changes and £48.2m to write off the London Transport deficit inherited from the previous administration. As a result of the supplementary precept of 6.1p precept would be raised to 11.5p.

On July 21 a council resolution was passed that a supplementary precept of 6.1p in the pound be issued to rating authorities in Greater London. On July 22 the council resolved to order boroughs requiring them to levy such a rate.

The statutory powers of the Greater London Council regarding transport were contained in the 1969 Act. The LTE were entrusted with the task of running London Transport. They had to do it on business lines so as to break even. If they could not do so, the council could make grants.

The GLC duty by section 1 included the provision of quick, good and reliable services, not social and philanthropic considerations. It had to be "economic". That did not warrant an instruction to cut fares by 25 per cent.

The question was whether the precept was ultra vires. Section 1 of the 1969 Act imposed a duty on the council. The transport facilities and services must be economic.

A deliberate decrease in revenue could not be described as economic. The alternative view of the meaning of "economic" was that it meant not wasteful, cost-effective. The meaning was to be found in the context of the statute.

His Lordship could not see how the proposals adopted by the council could have any validity.

Prescott's case was a fortiori the present case. The council's decision was ultra vires.

and could not be allowed to stand. As to the exercise of discretion, there was a duty to the ratepayers under section 1 to charge as much as was reasonable and no more.

The council had to balance the two conflicting interests of the travelling public and the ratepayers and take all relevant factors into account. They had to hold the balance fairly and reasonably.

In *Roberts v. Hopwood* (1925) AC 578 the House of Lords held that the council had to hold the balance fairly and reasonably. The council had to hold the balance fairly and reasonably.

In *Lady v. Newnham* (1953) 1 All ER 1000 there was a gift to a particular section of the community at the expense of the general body of ratepayers. The council had to hold the balance fairly and reasonably.

The majority on the council had given undue weight to the manifesto promise to cut fares by 25 per cent. They realized it would injure the ratepayers. The loss of the block grant doubled the burden.

A manifesto issued by a political party in order to get votes was not to be regarded as a gospel. It was not a covenant.

Many electors did not vote for the Labour Party. When a party was returned to power it should consider what it was best to do, and what was practical.

No councillor had made any affidavit or given any evidence. To cut fares by a half or a quarter was a gift to the travelling public at the expense of the ratepayers. The GLC had not held the balance fairly. Many of the travelling public came from outside London.

The action of the GLC went beyond their statutory powers; it was null and void. The council had to hold the balance fairly and reasonably.

Even when they knew there was to be a legal challenge they went ahead. They must unscrupulously disregard the interests of the ratepayers.

LORD JUSTICE OLIVER, agreeing, said that the first question was whether the precept was ultra vires. Section 1 of the 1969 Act imposed a duty on the council. The transport facilities and services must be economic.

clearly right but it was concerned with the Housing Act 1957 and was not helpful on the present issue.

The performance of the LTE's duties was subject to an important qualification in section 7(3).

That was a mandatory requirement which was matched in section 7(6) which showed the council's duty.

The GLC in exercising its supervisory function over fares under section 11(2) or (3) or grants under section 3 must under section 7(6) have regard to the LTE's duty so far as possible to cover any deficit.

The general object in reducing fares by 25 per cent had nothing to do with the general duty of the GLC under section 1.

It was said that greater efficiency would be provided by the reduction of fares. The council couched the 25 per cent reduction was a first step: to the total abolition of fares.

His Lordship agreed with what Lord Justice Dunn had said in the Divisional Court as to what the case was not about. He expressed no approval or criticism of the manifesto, but was an advance commitment a proper consideration.

The authors of the manifesto were not the GLC. Section 11(5) dealt with the requirement of a supplementary precept. There might have been a financial compliance with the statute but no proper opportunity was given of considering any other any county council. That showed the haste with which the proposals were being forced through.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS said that the council's decision arose out of a policy of a 25 per cent reduction of fares. The council had to hold the balance fairly and reasonably.

He was talking in a position of strength to a chairman who seemed to have no authority. It was a bad case of an abuse of power, which totally disregarded the interests of the ratepayers.

It was quite unjustified to say that London Transport could not afford to run the system. The council had to hold the balance fairly and reasonably.

## No PAYE duties on foreign employer in North Sea

Clark (Inspector of Taxes) v. Oceanic Contractors Inc.

Before Lord Justice Lawton, Lord Justice Brightman and Lord Justice Fox.

[Judgment delivered November 10]

A foreign company not resident in the United Kingdom was not required to operate the PAYE provisions of tax collection in respect of its employees working wholly or partly in the United Kingdom sector of the North Sea and who were paid abroad.

Section 204 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 could not apply to impose the onerous duties of tax collection on a foreign company who were not resident in the United Kingdom and who made payments of income to persons assessable to Schedule E income tax.

Moreover that position was not affected by the provisions of section 38 of the Finance Act 1972 requiring North Sea exploration activities to be treated "for the purposes of income tax" as duties performed in the United Kingdom.

Their Lordships, in reserved judgments, allowed an appeal by the company, Oceanic Contractors Inc., from the decision of Mr Justice Dillon (The Times, July 30, 1980; [1981] 1 WLR 59).

They quashed a determination by the tax inspector requiring the company to pay £203,254 to the Collector of Taxes in respect of Schedule E income tax on the wages it had paid to its North Sea employees during the fiscal year 1977-78.

Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was granted.

The company, a United States subsidiary not resident in the United Kingdom, carried on activities installing platforms and pipelines in the United Kingdom and Norwegian sectors of the North Sea. In 1971 it employed about 400 men, both British and foreign, to work on the exploration activities.

They operated from barges positioned sometimes in the United Kingdom sector and sometimes in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea. Those employees were paid in United States dollars at the head office of the company in Brussels. No PAYE deductions were made by the company when making those payments.

An appeal by the Crown from a decision of the special commissioners in favour of the company had been allowed by Mr Justice Dillon. He had upheld the Crown's contention that section 204(1) applied whenever the duties of the employment were carried out in the United Kingdom, and because of the provisions of section 38 of the Finance Act

1973, exploration activities in "designated areas" of the North Sea had to be treated as duties carried on in the United Kingdom.

Section 204(1) provides: "On the making of any payment of, or on account of, any income assessable to income tax under Schedule E, the person making the payment..."

Mr P. V. Baker, QC and Mr Robert Carnwath for the Crown; Mr Frank Heyworth Talbot, QC and Mr John Gardner for the company.

LORD JUSTICE LAWTON stated that the Crown's case rested on two alternative views. The first was that the Crown's construction of section 204(1) was correct. The second was that the Crown's construction of section 204(1) was correct.

But that sub-section could not be construed as having any effect on a person other than the person to whom the emoluments were paid provided always, of course, that he was charged to deduct tax and account to the Collector for it.

The construction adopted by Mr Justice Dillon required words to be read into section 204 of the 1970 Act to link it with section 38 of the Finance Act 1972.

By providing that a person who did acts outside the United Kingdom which, if done within the United Kingdom, would create a duty to deduct tax and account to the Collector for it.

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presume to have intended section 204 to be workable.

The Crown's construction might require foreign companies to employ English-speaking clerks or require them to decide whether to account to the Collector in sterling.

The Crown's narrower submission that had found favour with Mr Justice Dillon imposed on the provisions of section 38 of the Finance Act 1972. Although the United Kingdom "designated areas" of the North Sea were not part of our territorial waters, Parliament had provided by section 38 a territorial extension of charges to income tax, capital gains tax and corporation tax.

The Crown argued that the words "for the purposes of income tax" were wide enough to include both the charging and collecting of tax. His Lordship accepted that that was so.

But that sub-section could not be construed as having any effect on a person other than the person to whom the emoluments were paid provided always, of course, that he was charged to deduct tax and account to the Collector for it.

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Poland: the bank's happier...

Civil dispute cost

Nexus with loss

Stock Market

Shilling

Dollar

Gold

Money

Price Changes

Share Prices

Company Results

Banking

Insurance

Real Estate

Transport

Health

Education

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# Business News

THE TIMES Wednesday November 11 1981

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## Civil Service dispute may cost £500m

By John Whitmore, Financial Correspondent

The Civil Service pay dispute earlier this year appears to have cost the Government £250m, according to latest figures, and the final cost may reach £500m.

Figures for government borrowing to the end of October show that interest charges on the extra money borrowed to replace tax revenues held up by the dispute totalled £250m, and such charges, which are not recoverable, may double by the end of the financial year.

The worst of the inflationary impact on the money supply of the civil servants' dispute may be over, after a month that saw VAT repayments help boost sterling M3, the broad-based measure of money, by a further 14.13 per cent.

Figures released by the Treasury yesterday suggest that the net amount of tax money owing to the Exchequer is now on a firm downward path.

Not all the estimated £5,000m still owing at the end of October will be gathered in by the end of the present financial year, but outstanding tax about £1.5bn is likely to be paid by the end of the year. As money flows to the Exchequer, so monetary growth should slacken—indeed, in some months the outstanding stock of money may even fall.

But it now appears absolutely clear that the Government is likely to finish the present year with money supply overshooting its target by several percentage points.

The target for the present financial year envisaged growth in sterling M3 (notes and coin in circulation, plus all sterling bank deposits held by United Kingdom residents) rising at an annual rate of 6-10 per cent in the 14 months to next April. But the Government has already used up the whole of the 10 per cent growth in the eight months to mid-October.

Although this has been partly the result of the way in which the Civil Service dispute led to the private sector being asked to provide large amounts of tax funds throughout the summer, it is generally accepted that the underlying money supply has been growing too fast for comfort. This was fuelled largely by strong demand for bank credit from the personal sector, and was one of the factors leading to the large rise in interest rates recently.

The hope now is that the im-

## Monopoly inquiry on bid for Linfood

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

The bitterly-contested takeover bid of Linfood Holdings by Mr James Gulliver's Argill Foods is being referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. The move surprised Argill, which said it would be considering the full implications, and Linfood shares fell 10p to 166p.

But the referral—recommended by Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading and accepted by Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade—has come after concern in Whitehall over the concentration of purchasing power of big grocery multiples. The effect on the profitability of food manufacturing industry has been a main focus of concern.

The referral prompted speculation whether Mr Borrie will shortly recommend the commission's investigation of another big retail takeover now on his desk—F. W. Woolworth's bid for the Dodge City chain of discount stores. The food sector is not involved, but the takeover would increase Woolworth's already large stake in the paint retail market.

The referral means Argill's bid is suspended until the commission reports within six months.

In its report last May on discounts to retailers, still being considered by Mr Biffen, the commission warned of the importance of keeping a particularly close watch on future mergers in the distributive trade. There were fears that further concentrations of buying power could lead to a domination by a handful of large multiples to the disadvantage of smaller suppliers and also consumers.

The Argill-Linfood merger would give the combined companies around 3 per cent of the grocery retail market through outlets such as Carrefour hypermarkets, Cordon Bleu freezer centres and Linfood's chain of 250 supermarkets.

But the combined wholesaling operation would be more substantial, possibly accounting for 18 per cent of that sector. Linfood supplies the VG and Spar symbol chains and has 86 cash-and-carry centres.

The commission report on discounts, which recommended against new legislative control of discounts given to big multiples, having found that the preferential rates secured were being fed through to consumers. The Office of Fair Trading could act in specific cases, the commission suggested.

Mr Borrie is still considering whether to issue guidance lines for buying by the multiples and granting of discounts by manufacturers. A code of practice agreed by the two sides is another possibility.

If Mr Biffen accepts the commission's report on discounts, it increases the likelihood that retail mergers of any size in the grocery sector will in future be referred for Monopolies investigation.

The Food Manufacturers' Federation, welcoming the Argill move yesterday, said it would be seen as a warning shot across the bows of others who might be contemplating takeovers.



Mr Horsley: denies bid for Avana

## Northern Foods issue aims to raise £42m

Northern Foods is asking shareholders for £42m in the first rights issue since the recent collapse in the stock market. The issue, to reduce borrowings and strengthen the capital base, is being underwritten by N. M. Rothschild, Joint brokers are Cazenove and Scrimgeour Kemp-Ges.

Although the amount raised through rights issues this year has been running at record levels, the flow stopped abruptly in September as interest rates began to rise and the stock market fell sharply. The last big issue was launched by Fosco Mineur for £24m in September 17 and, in common with a number of other issues, a large part was left with the underwriters.

Northern's issue, which will yield £41.3m net of expenses, involves 33.9 million new shares, which are being offered at 126p on the basis of one new ordinary for every five held. Northern's shares closed 12p down at 146p yesterday.

Shares in Avana Group, where Northern recently increased its stake to 20.5 per cent, rose 6p to 146p on hopes that Northern would make a full bid. But this was firmly denied.

Financial Editor, page 17

## Commercial Union pretax profits cut by 26pc

By Our Financial Staff



Mr Jack Emms: downturn in underwriting results

A steep rise in underwriting losses has hit Commercial Union, one of Britain's largest insurance groups, and pretax profits for the nine months to the end of September were down by £21.5m to £60.2m, a fall of 26 per cent.

The rise in underwriting losses from £39m to £58.1m was largely because of losses in the United States where a short-run fall in reinsurance from £23.4m to £69.1m and Canada where they more than doubled to £15.7m over the nine months.

In the United Kingdom losses of £13m were sustained against a profit of £500,000 in the first nine months of 1980. In the group's operations in the Netherlands losses mounted from £2.2m to £6.3m.

"High interest rates and depressed economic conditions in the major territories in which we operate have added to the

increased by £282m to £1,189.3m. Although the increase is about 30 per cent, a large proportion of it reflects foreign exchange movements and the underlying growth is 16 per cent. The strongest areas of growth were the United States and the United Kingdom.

In the United States premium income increased by 23 per cent and the statutory operating ratio was 103.6 per cent, showing a slight deterioration during the last quarter.

Premium growth in the United Kingdom was 14 per cent.

Commercial Union's investment income rose from £113.4m to £150.1m for the nine months. Net of loan interest, but after allowing for the effect of changes in rates of exchange and other factors, the underlying increase was 19 per cent, the statement added.

The results disappointed the stock market and the shares fell 5p to 135p.

## IMF moves quickly on Poland

From Bailey Morris, Washington, Nov 10

Poland formally applied to rejoin the International Monetary Fund from which it was forced to withdraw by the Soviet Union in March 1950.

The Polish application comes just one week after the request by Hungary for membership of both the IMF and its sister lending agency, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, commonly known as the World Bank.

Of the Eastern European countries only Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia are at present members of the two lending institutions although both Poland and Czechoslovakia were members before the last war.

The Polish application, strongly supported by the United States and other Western nations, is expected to move quickly through the IMF's internal stages. The fund hopes to vote on the membership request in the next three months, an IMF spokesman said.

Poland at present owes more than \$24,000m to Western banks and governments and is unlikely to pay off its debts without external assistance, according to Mr G. William Miller, the former United States Secretary of Treasury who is chairman of the Polish-United States Economic Council.

It is precisely because of these external debt pressures that the Soviet Union has withdrawn its objections to Poland's announced desire to join the IMF, a fund spokesman said today.

"The only way Poland will ever be able to pay off its debts is to have a long-term economic stabilization programme. The IMF is in a better position to work with the Polish than any group of Western banks and governments", Mr Miller said.

In the past, the Soviet Union has been opposed strongly to the idea of Poland appealing to the IMF for external financial aid.

## Oil companies press for BNOC price cut

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Leading oil companies are intensifying their pressure on the British National Oil Corporation to reconsider recent price rises which have boosted the cost of a barrel of Forties Field crude to \$36.50.

The state-owned corporation is being told by customers such as Shell, Esso and BP that the new price levels cannot be justified at a time when the market for oil products is declining.

BNOC increased its North Sea reference price by \$1.50 a barrel, backdated to November 1, after the decision last month by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to raise the price of light crude from \$32 to \$34 a barrel.

The increases have already forced a new round of petrol price rises in the United Kingdom. Esso will today follow BP, Texaco and Mobil in lifting prices possibly as high as £1.75 for a gallon of four-star.

The oil companies' main complaint against BNOC is that North Sea crude prices are now very close to those charged by the African producers, particularly Nigeria, whose oil is similar in quality.

Nigerian crude, it is argued, has always been 50 cents to \$1 more expensive than North Sea oil and the oil companies, particularly those with big downstream refining interests, want the differential restored.

The big refiners, struggling in the face of significant losses on their United Kingdom operations, say that the new \$2.50 North Sea premium over Saudi Arabian light crude prices is too high.

BNOC officials delayed setting the new prices until it became clear what level the Nigerians would choose. As a result of the Opec meeting, Algeria and Libya are allowed to charge by up to \$3 a barrel and Nigeria \$3.7. However, in a bid to boost flagging exports, the Nigerians have fixed their November price at \$36.50.

The BNOC increase, although it failed to match the \$2 rise agreed by the Saudis, will still benefit the United Kingdom by more than £350m in additional tax revenue.

The Esso petrol price rise of 3.24p a gallon (including VAT) is not accompanied by a withdrawal of subsidies to retailers unlike BP Oil, which yesterday raised prices by only 2p a gallon but abandoned dealer support.

## Nexos ends Delphi pact with loss of 30 jobs

By Bill Johnstone and Anthony Hilton

Nexos, the office automation subsidiary of the British Technology Group (BTG), has ended its agreement with the Delphi Corporation of America, making about 30 people in Los Angeles and Bristol redundant.

The agreement with Delphi allowed the company to manufacture and market a telephone answering system exclusively in Europe. The jobs to be shed in Los Angeles and in Bristol are in the project development and engineering areas.

The news comes only 24 hours after the BTG announcement on forming a joint venture with

Gestemir Holdings through the word processing side of Nexos.

Nexos yesterday said the company had decided to withdraw from the sale of large computer office systems in the United States.

"We have had an excellent working relationship with Delphi and it is with regret that we have decided to terminate this operation," Mr Muir Moffat, managing director of Nexos, said.

The agreement with Delphi, a subsidiary of Exxon, was signed in September 1979 and was reported at the time to have cost the group £2m.

### Stock Markets

FT Index 502.7 down 8.2  
Nifty 333.3 down 5.55  
FT All Share 303.96  
down 2.15  
Bargains 19.159

### Sterling

\$ 1.8670 down 2.55  
Index 89.1 down 0.2

### Dollar

Index 107.5 up 0.8  
DM 2.2330 up 240 pts

### Gold

\$ 415 down \$ 14.50

### Money

3 mth sterling 151-141  
3 mth Euro \$ 131-141  
6 mth Euro \$ 131-141

### PRICE CHANGES

**Rises**

Atlantic Resc 20p to 230p  
BBA Gr 3p to 35p  
British Sugar 10p to 230p  
Ester Group 10p to 230p  
Gas & Oil Acre 15p to 395p  
Gill & Duffie 6p to 165p  
Northgate Expt 20p to 385p  
Pretoria P Cem 11p to 56p  
Serck 15p to 350p  
Smiths Ind 10p to 174p  
Ulster 8p to 91p  
Warrington T 10p to 174p  
Watts Blake 10p to 195p  
Wholesale Fils 10p to 240p  
Woolsey Hughes 5p to 240p

**Falls**

Anal Metal 15p to 555p  
Barrow Rand 18p to 410p  
Brit & Comm 9p to 308p  
Coast Gold Fils 12p to 468p  
De La Rue 15p to 455p  
Grosvit 12p to 51p  
Kwik Fit 12p to 51p  
Linwood 11p to 165p  
Newmark L 12p to 146p  
Nita Foods 15p to 365p  
Polly Pack 15p to 285p  
RTZ 15p to 285p  
Hand Mine Prod 15p to 56p  
Strong & Fisher 10p to 635p  
Unilever 10p to 635p

## New protest on air fares

A further complaint has been lodged with the EEC Commission over its inability to break up the airline fares cartel in Europe.

Lord Bethell, chairman of the Freedom of the Skies Campaign and MEP for London, has written to Mr Gaston Thorn, Commission president, that there had been no significant response to his original submission on price rigging and other monopoly practices of airlines operating in Europe.

Lord Bethell originally complained in May 1980 that airlines were breaking the Treaty of Rome.

## Whitbread sales fall 7.5 per cent

Whitbread, Britain's third largest brewer with around 15 per cent of the market, saw its drink sales fall by nearly 7.5 per cent, against a national average of 6.5 per cent, in the six months to last August. Since then, it says it has again put sales first, but recession is keeping trade tough.

Pre-tax profits rose from £35.5m to £38.5m but this was entirely due to a saving in interest charges as the group took in a further £10m from the sale of the Chiswell Street City property. Whitbread employs 37,000 workers. It shed 600 of them in the half year as part of a continuing brewery closure programme.

Financial Editor, page 17

Oil refining is to end at the Cologne plant of Esso AG, the Exxon Corporation's German subsidiary, because of falling demand. But chemical operations will continue.

### BUSINESS BRIEFING

## Call to stop Linwood sale

The Government is to be urged today to stop the sale of the former Talbot car factory at Linwood, near Glasgow. Mr Norman Buchanan, Labour MP for West Renfrewshire, will call for a public inquiry into alternative uses for the plant, which closed this year with the loss of more than 4,000 jobs.

Local Labour Party leaders and trade unionists are expected to demonstrate outside the factory next Monday at the start of a 10-day auction of tools and equipment. The sale could raise £10m and a local action group says that if the factory cannot be put to other uses, the money should not go to the PSA group, Talbot's French parent company, but into a trust to stimulate local employment.

Talbot said yesterday that the Linwood operation lost £20m last year, and a similar amount was spent on redundancy payments "and there is no way we can recover that

## £750,000 for electronics

The Department of Industry and the Scottish Development Agency are giving £750,000 to Inmap, a company formed by Edinburgh and Heriot-Watt Universities to promote the industrial application of microelectronics.

Inmap will use the money to establish a permanent information and exhibitions centre; run seminars, initially at a rate of 30 a year; and visit Scottish companies—about 250 in the first year—to advise on the application of microelectronics.

## Norway contract for John Brown

John Brown Offshore has been awarded a contract by Statoil, the Norwegian state oil company, for the design of two riser platforms for the Norwegian gas gathering pipeline system.

The system, when completed in 1986, will land natural gas from the Stavfjord and Heland fields at Kaarstoe on the Norwegian mainland. The £1,000m development is being financed by a consortium of oil companies led by Statoil.

## Bank drops dividend

Frankfurt, Nov 10.—Commerzbank AG, West Germany's third consumer-owned bank, will not pay a dividend for 1981 after dropping a dividend payment for 1980. Herr Walter Seipp, the bank's managing board chairman, said that the bank would be in balance on its 1981 operations and would not have to divert any assets to balance its accounts.

## Save round the clock

Scottish Trustee Savings Bank is moving to 24-hour banking with the installation of Philip's automated teller machines which allow customers to use debit facilities, as well as withdraw cash, round the clock. Eighteen machines have been installed, with 38 to come.

## Ex-minister's job

Mr Sam Silkin, MP, the former Labour Attorney-General, has been appointed a director of the British Printing Corporation.

## Swiss takes over BIS

Dr Fritz Leutwiler, right, 57-year-old president of the Swiss national bank, was named yesterday as the next chairman and president of the Bank for International Settlements, the central bankers' bank. He will take over at the beginning of next year when Dr Jelle Zijlstra, who has held the post 14 years, retires as President of the Dutch national bank.

Lord O'Brien, former governor of the Bank of England, paid tribute at a BIS board meeting in Brussels yesterday to Dr Zijlstra's role in increas-

## Paribas man charged

M Pierre Moussa, former chairman of the Paribas banking group, and three of his former colleagues, were charged in Paris yesterday with offences against the Customs and exchange regulations after Government allegations that the bank helped to transfer \$5,000 gold coins worth Fr29m to Canada illegally before legislation was enacted to nationalize the group.

### TODAY

unemployment and unfilled vacancies (September final figures); employment in the production industries (August); overtime and short-time working in manufacturing industries (August); work stoppages due to industrial disputes (September); quarterly estimates of employees in employment (2nd quarter). Confederation of British Industry quarterly industrial trends survey for October.

## THE DE LA RUE COMPANY p.l.c.

"It was always expected that the second half for the Group would, as usual, be very much stronger than the first, and the Board firmly retains this view while recognising that the poor first half performance at Crosfield Electronics is bound to have the effect of reducing original expectations for the year as a whole"

Sir Arthur Norman KBE, DFC, Chairman

### EXTRACTS FROM INTERIM STATEMENT

**Trading Results**

The Security side performed extremely well in difficult conditions, but the overall result was severely depressed by the substantial loss incurred by Crosfield Electronics.

Group profit before tax is down by 27% by comparison with the level of twelve months ago, and the trading margin fell from 12.5% to 7.6%. Exports from the UK were at their normal high level (70% of UK turnover).

Crosfield Electronics has felt the effects of world recession and high interest rates to a greater extent than was expected even four months ago, but their main problem has lain in the loss of competitiveness of part of the old range of MAGNASCAN Colour Scanners. However, orders for the new models recently announced are being received at a very satisfactory rate and a major recovery is expected in the second half.

Dividend: maintained at 6.6p per share net.

### INTERIM STATEMENT for the half year ended 30th September 1981

	Amounts are expressed in thousands of pounds		
	1981/82	1980/81	1980/81
	Half Year	Half Year	Full Year
Sales:	£'000	£'000	£'000
Security	77,558	62,599	139,857
Crosfield Electronics	14,388	18,855	36,401
	91,946	81,454	176,258
Exports	48,168	43,554	95,148
Trading profit:			
Security	11,556	6,982	21,573
Crosfield Electronics	(5,677)	1,522	474
	5,879	8,504	21,847
Group net interest received and surplus arising on Central Management charges	1,085	1,864	2,939
Group trading profit	6,964	10,168	24,786
As percentage of sales	7.6%	12.5%	14.1%
Share of profits of associated companies	3,546	4,293	8,218
Profit before tax	10,510	14,461	33,004
Profit after tax	8,328	12,451	30,328
Minority interests	593	372	838
Profit attributable to The De La Rue Company p.l.c.	8,235	12,079	29,490
Less Provision of Preference dividend	6	6	12
Profit attributable to Ordinary shareholders	8,229	12,073	29,478
Earnings per Ordinary share	21.6p	31.7p	77.4p



## France may sign Soviet gas deal

From Michael Parrot  
Paris, November 10

The French Government has disregarded a last ditch attempt by the United States to prevent its planned purchase of 8,000m cubic metres a year of gas from the Soviet Union.

A delegation led by Mr. Michel Raskin, the United States Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, has just been in Paris suggesting alternative ways in which France might meet its energy needs. But the French Government was reportedly unimpressed.

Among the proposals put forward by Mr. Raskin were an increase in United States coal deliveries, collaboration between the two countries in synthetic technology and the use of alternative natural gas supply sources.

According to a recent study made by the EEC Commission in Brussels, the new contract would make France dependent on Soviet gas for 26 per cent of its requirements in 1990. Without the contract the 1990 dependence would only be 9 per cent.

The contract with the Soviets could be signed before the end of the year.

## EAST BLOCK TRADE WARNING

Paris Nov 10. — American and Western companies that do business in Eastern Europe have been warned by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development to be wary over the terms imposed by their Communist trading partners.

In an unusually candid study the OECD declares that unbalanced acceptance of "countertrade" terms by Western companies may undermine the basis of international trade. The document expressed concern that East European states will step up pressure to finance their purchases from the West in countertrade, which requires a Western supplier to accept partial or total payment in goods or services.

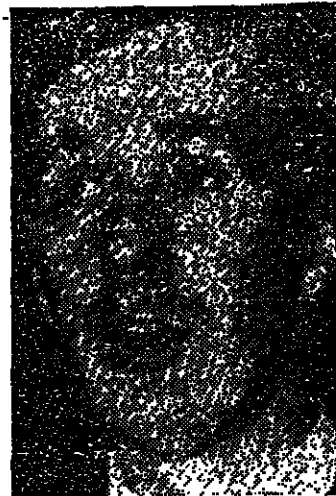
## Whitehall cool on cable TV expansion

As a new plea was made to the Government yesterday to deregulate cable television and so allow nationwide expansion, Lord Belstead, Minister of State at the Home Office responsible for broadcasting, made it clear that the Home Secretary is not yet prepared to move.

He admitted, however, that if satellite broadcasts began cable television could gain because this method of tapping such broadcasts could avoid unsightly proliferation of antennae.

The Cable Television Association will shortly present to the Government plans for further development of subscription television by cable, Mr. Maurice Townsend, the association's chairman, said.

A dozen pilot experiments in subscription television are now just starting in which additional services, mainly of recent film releases, are being offered, as well as BBC and independent television broadcasts.



Lord Belstead yesterday: Home Secretary not yet prepared to move

other services which could be offered by cable links, from monitoring one's bank account to sending in orders to the local shop, Lord Belstead continued. But the launching of the pilot subscription schemes showed that it was possible to take a positive line even at this stage of development.

All this is part of the manoeuvring as the Government moves nearer to a consideration of whether to modify its restrictive policies on cable television. There are to be consultations with the Government soon.

By 1990 over 30 per cent of West European homes will be linked to cable networks, though the proportion in the United Kingdom could be even higher.

Plessey and Rediffusion are among British companies exploring how the commercial experience of the Americans could be adopted in this country, providing the Home Office can be persuaded to relax its rigid controls over what can be transmitted by cable and who is allowed to operate such a service.

## Aerospace industry poised to copy car makers

# Japanese all set for take-off

From Peter Hazelhurst, Tokyo Nov 10

Japan, already the world's leading producer of cars, steel, ships and electronic consumer goods, is moving rapidly into one of the West's last preserves, the aerospace industry.

Japan cannot yet match Western aircraft manufacturers, but there is increasing evidence that, as in the car and motorcycle industries in the 1970s, Japan is beginning to lay down the foundations for a quick expansion in aviation.

The Federal Aviation Administration in Washington has just provided Mitsubishi Heavy Industries with a certificate to export a knocked-down nine-seat executive jet airliner, known as the MU300 Series, to the United States.

Japan's other prospective partners in its most ambitious aviation project are reported to be the American McDonnell Douglas corporation, Fokker of the Netherlands and the European consortium, Airbus Industrie.

Although Japan does not intend to

export a made-up version of the proposed airliner, the project rules out any chance that Japan's present medium aircraft, the YS-11, will be replaced with Britain's BAC-111 or the medium-range Fokker.

The uninitiated outsider sees Japanese industry in terms of cars, motor cycles and television sets, but the country is already manufacturing a large number of military aircraft, aero engines and rockets. The F-15 fighter, which is being manufactured by Mitsubishi and other partners under licence, Nike missiles; the fuselage of a military transport plane; an anti-submarine helicopter, the HSS-2; and a variety of other missiles.

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries is manufacturing at least seven types of jet and turbo-jet engines and has also manufactured the American F-4EJ fighter under licence. American pilots who have flown the Japanese version of the fighter claim the finish is superior to that of the American-made models.

Another consortium, consisting of Mitsubishi, Ishikawajima-Harima Heavy Industries and Kawasaki Heavy Industries, is collaborating with Rolls-Royce in developing the new RJ500 jet engine, designed to power a medium-haul aircraft with a capacity of 120 to 160 seats. The three Japanese partners will produce half the engine's components in Japan and Rolls-Royce will manufacture the other parts and assemble the engine in Britain.

Another sign of the move into the aerospace industry is the little known fact that Japan has already put its own rockets and geostatic satellites into space.

Japan's National Space Development Agency plans to put a shuttle into space within the next nine years. An official said: "It will be smaller than the Columbus. But we hope it will be more advanced. It will be equipped with a jet engine which provides the craft with power to fly when it reenters the atmosphere."

## Jobless walk out on America's car capital

Detroit, Nov 10. — The jobless are pulling out of America's car capital in an exodus which highlights the grimness of the recession and the problems of the country's motor industry.

Some of the migrants are heading south and west to the so-called sun-belt where small town newspapers advertising new jobs are increasingly sold on Detroit's newsstands.

Others are moving because it is easier to find a job almost anywhere else in the United States.

Michigan was once one of the wealthiest of America's 50 states. But, what is bad for General Motors is bad for Michigan. The state whose fortunes are inextricably entwined with the car industry is today faced with an economic crisis.

Over 26,000 children in the state found themselves last month with nowhere to go. Their schools had gone bankrupt because voters in three districts refused to approve a local tax increase.

One of the three districts had a change of heart and approved funds to reopen its schools. But then voters refused to approve funds for

school buses and many of 6,800 pupils in the rural area will have to walk to get to their classrooms.

Psychiatric hospitals are laying off staff just as admissions are rising. Even workers in unemployment offices are losing their jobs.

In Detroit, the symbol of the city's civic pride, a soaring glass skyscraper complex known as the Renaissance Centre, has been hit by heavy losses. This centre of towers of luxury hotel rooms, offices and smart shops cost \$357m (£190m) to build four years ago.

Today it has losses amounting to \$100m and some 150 stores, Carter and Courreges among them, have moved away.

### Fruitless

America's leading car manufacturers are struggling with some desperation to overcome the effects of recession, sky-high interest rates, a sluggish economy and the competition of cheaper foreign cars.

But the result of their fight is not yet apparent. General Motors' third-quarter loss was \$468m, much grimmer news

than expected. Chrysler lost \$149m and Ford \$334m.

For a jobless car worker such as John Warren, the result is a long, fruitless search for work.

"I don't know where to look — I've tried everywhere but there's nothing for me. It's a lot of stress. It is very depressing," he said at his local trade union branch in Detroit where he sought a job.

John Warren's last regular job was at a Chrysler plant a year ago. At his union branch, fewer than three in 10 of the 2,600 members have jobs.

"Michigan is fighting for its economic life. The recession may be slight for the nation but it is absolutely staggering for Michigan," Governor William Milliken said recently.

The governor has ordered a \$270m cut in the state's budget, the biggest single cut in history.

Since January, 1980, Michigan has had America's highest unemployment rate. More than 500,000 people, 11.7 per cent of the workforce, are now out of work.

Five of the 11 metropolitan

areas in the United States with the highest unemployment rate are in Michigan.

These are the towns stretching north from Detroit to Saginaw which form the backbone of the car industry, making everything from seatbelts to mirrors to transmissions.

In Flint, where General Motors began, the unemployment rate was 15.1 per cent last month, higher than any metropolitan area in the country and nearly twice the national average.

### 'Hungry'

More than 345,000 jobless workers have run out of unemployment benefits since Michigan's slump began in October, 1979.

President Reagan's spending cuts on social services have only worsened the crisis for Michigan, where nearly 12 per cent of the residents are on some form of state or federal welfare.

"Old people in this city will be hungry this winter," Detroit's Mayor, Mr. Coleman Young said.

About 70 factories, not all in the car industry, closed last year across the state, according to trade union officials.

The only thing which has boomed in Michigan is crime. In the first six months of 1980, major crimes in Detroit rose 12.5 per cent.

With forecasts of continuing financial trouble for years ahead, it looks as though a well-known car bumper sticker could soon be making a comeback: "The last person to leave Detroit please put the lights out." — Reuter.

## IN BRIEF

### Champagne group eyes Dior fashion

Moët-Hennessy, the French champagne and cognac group which acquired the Christian Dior perfume company 10 years ago, now has its eyes on the Christian Dior fashion house itself, part of the struggling Boussac St. Hilaire group.

M. Alain Chevalier, the managing director, said yesterday in London that proposals had been put to the French Government under which Moët-Hennessy would take over Dior couture with the backing of the industrial reorganization group IDI and other financial interests.

Moët-Hennessy is expected to put in at least fr50m (4.7m) and eventually may try for complete control of the fashion house. But the French Government has not yet responded to the proposal, M. Chevalier said.

### Peugeot talks

Peugeot is to start talks with the unions to avert a strike at its Sochaux plant outside Paris. Workers in the body shop voted to occupy the workshop from tomorrow to protest over an increased work load and to support demands for five weeks of holiday and a 33-hour working week.

### Renault dispute ends

Workers in the Renault plantery shop at the St. Denis plant have voted to accept a management offer on pay and work conditions and return to work, ending a two-month dispute.

### Steel production up

French steel production increased 2.2 per cent in October from a year ago to 1,743,000 metric tons, bringing the first 10-month total to 17,819,000 tons, or 10.9 per cent below the corresponding 1980 period.

### More Ecuador oil

Ecuador's oil production for the 10 months ended October 31 was 64.1 million barrels against 62.1 million barrels over the same period last year.

### Fewer dealers

The number of United States car dealers handling American makes has fallen to 21,187 from 21,945 last year.



# WHITBREAD

AND COMPANY LIMITED

## Half Year Report

Results for the six months ended 29th August 1981

Whitbread and Company Limited announce unaudited Profits for the six months to 29th August, 1981, and an Interim Dividend of 2.25 pence per share (1980/81—2.1 pence), which represents an increase of 7.1%. The Interim Dividend will be paid on 8th January, 1982, to Shareholders on the Register at close of business on 4th December, 1981.

### Turnover and Profits

The consolidated turnover for the six months was £415,080,000, an increase of 7% over the same period last year. Profit before tax and extraordinary items was £38,535,000 and Profit after Tax was £29,608,000, showing an increase of 8.5% and a decrease of 4.8% respectively.

### Share Issue

The Directors are recommending a one for two scrip issue thereby raising the issued share capital of the Company to a level more in line with the overall value of the Ordinary Shareholders' funds. To allow for the scrip issue, it will be necessary to increase the authorised share capital to £135 million and an Extraordinary General Meeting will take place on 8th December, 1981, to consider these proposals.

### Trade

Trading conditions continue to be difficult, and, with the present economic climate, there are few signs of an upturn in beer trade. Competition throughout the industry has intensified, and the balance that we have to achieve rests between maintaining our market share and keeping up our margins. A cost reduction programme to keep costs in line with the level of trading has necessitated the closure of several production plants.

We have continued to increase the number of local ales that we produce and they are performing well. Trophy bitter remains the largest single selling brand of draught ale in the U.K.

Lager sales have suffered from the general recession, but both Heineken and Stella Artois continue in their dominant positions in their market sectors. Gold Label remains the leading strong ale in the country, and Kaltenberg Diat Pils is making significant inroads in the Bottled beer market.

Spirit sales in the U.K. have been affected by the recession, but Long John continues its success in the export whisky market. Sales of table wine showed an increase in the half year, and our new Wine Box is in great demand.

	6 months to 29.8.81	6 months to 30.8.80
Turnover	415,080	387,976
Profit before depreciation and funding charges	54,828	53,412
Deduct: Depreciation	(12,406)	(10,268)
Interest	(6,232)	(9,133)
Receivable	161	(40)
Gain (Loss) on Foreign Exchange	36,351	33,971
Trading Profit	2,184	1,537
Income from Trade Investments	38,535	35,508
Profit before Taxation and Extraordinary Items	(8,927)	(4,420)
Taxation	29,608	31,088
Profit before Extraordinary Items	219	255
Extraordinary Items, less Taxation attributable thereto	29,827	31,343
Profit after Extraordinary Items	(22)	20
Attributable to Members of Holding Company	29,805	31,363
Preference Stock Dividend	(207)	(208)
Profit Attributable to Ordinary Shareholders	29,598	31,155
Interim Dividend on Ordinary Shares	5,696	5,297
Interim Dividend—Pence per Share	2.25p	2.10p
Earnings—Pence per Share—Basic	11.60p	12.28p
Fully Diluted	11.50p	12.22p

NOTES: To ensure comparability of the two half years' results, the figures previously published for the half year 1980 have been amended as follows—  
1. £1.34 million previously charged against Trading Profits is now included under Extraordinary Items net of tax reflecting the accounting policy adopted for the full year 1980/81.  
2. Taxation has been adjusted to reflect the net rate of taxation on the year's profits.

The Beefeater Steak House expansion programme is continuing and trading profit performance is encouraging.

### The Future

Until the economy improves, we anticipate the present trend in beer volumes will continue. Meanwhile we are maintaining our trading investment policy, which with our rationalisation programme, makes us confident that we shall be ready to take our full share of the improvement in future trading conditions when the time comes.

Brewery, Chiswell Street, London EC1Y 4SD

## Arenson plunges in tough trading year

By Our Financial Staff

Competitive trading in the furniture industry prompted by the collapse in consumer demand slashed profits at A. Arenson (Holdings) last year.

Arenson, which claims one of the most advanced furniture making plants in Europe, suffered a near 20 per cent drop in sales which cut pretax profits from £1.5m to £68,000. Sales in the year ended July fell from £17m to £13.9m. The decline reflected a 25 per cent drop in demand, while production during the period ran at about 60 per cent of capacity.

Since the year end, Arenson has lost one of its flat-pack customers, MFI Furniture, whose orders at one time represented 25 per cent of total sales. Mr. Archy Arenson, chairman, says that this was due to differences over pricing policy. MFI says it found cheaper products from other manufacturers.

After tax, the group lost £14,000 against profits of £1.4m. Although there are no signs of improved trading shareholders are getting a

## Folkes Hefo cuts payout after loss

By Margaret Pagano

After six months of closures and redundancies designed to cut costs, the Midlands engineering and property group John Folkes Hefo has plunged into the red.

Hefo plunged from a pretax profit of £1.4m to a £388,000 loss in the half-year to June. Sales in the period fell by £10m to £29.8m. Shareholders get a reduced half-time gross dividend of 0.5p against 0.7p and the group's shares fell 15p to 14p.

On top of measures taken over the last 18 months to counter depressed demand and tight margins, the group is taking vigorous action to cut costs. In the last six months Hefo, which runs the country's largest open-die forgings, has closed one company and reduced its workforce by 9 per cent. Last year 400 employees lost their jobs leaving 2,600 on the engineering side.

Mr. Constantine Hefo, who became chairman in August on the retirement of Mr. James Hearnshaw, said yesterday that further action was being taken.

## Raglan to expand with £1m deal

By Baron Phillips

The once beleaguered Raglan Property Trust, which has not paid a dividend since 1973, is expanding through its proposed acquisition of the privately owned Dido Investments.

Shareholders were told at yesterday's annual meeting that the cost of the acquisition would be met through the issuing of 13,626m new shares, equivalent to just over £1m.

Dido is a private investment property company owning 15 retail units producing £58,000 income.

Most of the shares being issued for the acquisition have been conditionally placed with four institutional investors, including Kleinwort Benson, which already holds 8.2 per cent of Raglan's stock. Shareholders are being offered shares on a one-for-two basis at 7½p a share.

At the same time Raglan announced first-half results to September 30 vastly improved from the previous period. Profits before tax rose to £122,000 from £30,000 in the first half last year and £109,000 for the full year.

### Business appointments

## John Laing chief to retire

Sir Maurice Laing intends to retire from the group of John Laing at the group's annual meeting next June, but will remain an active member of the board and has accepted the invitation to be the group's president from that date. Mr. L. J. Holliday will become chief executive on January 1, and chairman after Sir Maurice's retirement. Mr. A. Mendoza, Mr. J. A. Renshaw and Mr. R. A. Wood have become directors.

Barclays Bank International as group adviser on export credits. Mr. Cornhill retired in June as deputy to the secretary at the Export Credits Guarantee Department, where he was in charge of the projects group for ten years. Mr. J. B. Young is now chairman of West Pump. The post is in addition to that of group managing director which he has held since 1974. Mr. Piers Godfrey has been made a director of River and Mercantile Trust.



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Transatlantic trials for CU

An air of déjà vu hangs over the nine months of figures of Commercial Union. In 1975 CU sustained a loss and in climbing out of the problems, mainly caused by expansion in the United States, it dispensed with the services of its then chief general manager. Then came a rights issue in 1977 for £73.8m. Now the group looks as if it will for the third year running experience a downturn in profits, again thanks principally to the drive for business in the United States.

For the first nine months of the current year underwriting losses have leapt from £39m to £98.1m. In the United States the losses have risen from £23.4m to £59.1m, and the story of a worsening of the position on the underwriting side is repeated in the other main areas of the group such as the United Kingdom, The Netherlands and Canada. High interest rates and depressed economic conditions in the main territories in which the group operates have added to the general cyclical downturn on the underwriting side. No amount of detailed analysis can disguise the fact that this is a poor performance.

Fortunately investment income, net of loan interest, showed a useful rise from £106.8m to £142.9m. Equally happily the group has a relatively low tax charge of around 28 per cent. So attributable profits for shareholders come out at £47.1m against £56.7m even though at the pretax level the position looks worse with profits down £21.5m to £50.2m.

The drive for premium growth in the United States and the United Kingdom is paying off in terms of volume. The underlying growth, stripping out foreign exchange complications, is 16 per cent. But the price the group is paying for that growth is clearly profitability. The stock market in its collective wisdom clearly dislikes the way Commercial Union is going. At 135p the historic yield is no less than 11.9 per cent which with no prospect of dividend growth is the only thing going for the shares at present.

After only seven months of the present target period for monetary growth, sterling M3 has already breached its implied ceiling (£75,500m) for the full fourteen months of the exercise. An estimated rise of 14-15 per cent for the sterling M3 in the latest banking month must have pushed the outstanding total at mid-October up to about £75,800m. That, incidentally, represents an annualized rate of growth since last February, the base month of the present target period, of 19 per cent.

Just how badly the figures have been distorted by the effects of the civil service dispute remains anyone's guess. With any luck there may be several months over the rest of the year that produce monetary contraction — markets pinning their hopes on November being the first of them. What does seem clear, however, is that there is going to be some degree of overshoot for the period as a whole and that raises the question of the extent to which this is likely to effect the way the Government plays the interest rate game from here on.

One assumption must be that any excessive "underlying" growth in money supply so far this year will tend to be regarded as water under the bridge. In other words, so long as the absolute numbers look reasonable enough over the coming months, there is unlikely to be any move to prevent sterling interest rates following dollar rates downwards this winter — provided, of course, that is the way the latter are headed.

### Whitbread

#### A flat brew

The big brewers have already shown what they can do to keep profits moving by cutting costs and raising prices during the present recession, and something extra is needed to impress the stock market now. This Whitbread failed to provide yesterday with its figures for the half year to August, and the £3m rise to £38.5m shed 4p to 158p. The £3m rise to £38.5m in pre-tax profits was matched by the fall in £2.9m in interest payable. And in trading terms Whitbread has all but stood still, because the interest saving simply reflected a further £10m instalment of the £25m receivable over three years from the sale of the Chiswell Street property. In possessing such an income,

Whitbread is unique among brewers. In one respect the market was a trifle unkind. The summer weather remained bad throughout Whitbread's six months. It only began to get better in September.

The quantity of beer drunk nationally in the six months fell 6.6 per cent and Whitbread, intent on holding margins, let its market share of around 15 per cent slip, so that its own fall in sales was nearly 7.5 per cent. In attempting to hold margins Whitbread clearly finds the going tough. It put up prices in its own houses, but the free trade, suffers from keen price cutting.

Apart from the proceeds of the Chiswell sale, Whitbread should score over other big brewers in still having a dozen breweries. Whereas others make do with only three or four so that there should be some rationalization benefits. But if Whitbread is a guide, as the first brewer in the reporting season, the sector is unlikely to outperform the market in the run up to the next Budget. There are few signs of consumption picking up, and profits from gaming machines are not what they were.

### Pensions

#### Decision day approaches

The Government must soon make up its mind on the terms of the rebate it will offer those pension schemes which contract out of the State earnings-related scheme. The decision will not be easy.

On the one hand it is faced with the political commitment to encourage both individuals and companies in the private sector to be self-sufficient in pension provision. On the other the temptation to induce companies to contract back into the State scheme, thereby channelling a potential £3,000m a year in contributions, back into the State's coffers, must be considerable.

The National Association of Pension Funds believes that the terms proposed by the Government Actuary in his recent report, if adopted, unmodified provide just such an incentive for employers to rejoin the State scheme and are not unreasonably, the NAFP believes this is not a good thing.

Details of the calculations are complex but the disagreement between the Government Actuary and the NAFP, which aired its grievances yesterday, boils down to whether the rebate offered to employers who opt out of the State scheme should be reduced from 7 per cent of National Insurance contributions to 6 per cent (as the Government Actuary suggests) or to 6.5 per cent, as the NAFP would like to see.

The NAFP is of the opinion that at 6.5 per cent it would be sufficient to cover the employers' liabilities, but not over generous — at 6 per cent there would be a positive incentive to contract back into the State scheme. The Government is obliged to give twelve months notice of the new terms for contracting out and the deadline is April 1982.

The market's reflex reaction to the £43m rights issue from Northern Foods was to mark up Avana's shares. But apart from the fact that that Northern has again denied any bid intentions here, Avana is now capitalizing at £35m which would make it quite a mouthful and a bid could also lead to problems as both groups are main suppliers to Marks and Spencer.

So, for the moment, a Northern bid for Avana seems about as likely as Northern getting involved in the shenanigans elsewhere in the food manufacturing sector. In fact the reasons behind the rights issue are more mundane. Northern's September 1980 balance sheet showed £47m net debt against £118m of shareholders' funds, largely reflecting the Bluebird acquisition in the United States, and the high interest rates across the Atlantic have been an important factor in the rather flat second half the group has had in the year to September 30. The profit forecast of £34m suggests only a marginal second half gain.

The rights issue will bring the debt equity ratio back to single figures and allow scope for future acquisitions, while capital spending should be covered by cash flow. Future acquisitions are likely to be in the value-added sectors of the food industry, here or in the States where Northern has met with success so far.

Two announcements this week have thrown the role of the International Monetary Fund sharply into focus. "Times" writers examine Poland's application to join the organization and the record loan being made to India.

## Poland: making the banks a little happier

Poland's move to join the International Monetary Fund can do little in the short term to relieve the country's chronic cash crisis. But the talks beginning in Washington today finally lead to Poland becoming a member of the IMF and the World Bank which could mark an important step along what is bound to be a long and difficult road back to financial respectability.

Whatever the quota that Poland would receive as a member of the IMF, the borrowing facilities attached to it would pale into insignificance against the country's vast accumulated burden of hard currency debt. Poland's hard currency debt is estimated at about \$27,000m (about £14,200m). Some \$14,100m are owed to banks in 14 industrialized countries and certain key offshore centres that report to the Bank for International Settlements in Basle. Most of the rest is owed to governments — mainly in the West but also in Third World countries like Brazil and the eastern block.

Despite two agreements last month — to reschedule the official and commercial bank debt falling due this year, Poland has enormous and unfulfillable cash requirements. The two agreements have said that in an ideal world the country should have a cash injection of \$10,000m this year. This sum, which Poland has no chance of receiving, is about \$4,400m more than the record-breaking loan granted by the IMF to India this week.

But membership of the IMF would have positive effects. Poland would become a far more acceptable partner for the 460 western banks to which it owes money and with which it will have to negotiate next year — and in following years — in order to reschedule its debt further.

The ability of Poland's bankers to agree last month on the terms for rescheduling the private debt falling due this year was a minor miracle of solidarity. One bank declaring Poland in default could have brought the whole tottering edifice of Poland's debt crashing down with incalculable results for the international banking system.

But throughout the negotiations many banks were concerned at the pace and poor quality of the information that the Poles were able to give them on economic developments in their own country. Although a team of western bank economists is touring Poland this week as part of an agreement between the Poles and their creditor banks to provide facilities for on-the-spot monitoring of Poland's recovery efforts, the ability of the International Monetary Fund to gain access to Polish economic data would be far more reassuring.

Furthermore the IMF, if it were to lend money to the Poles, could be expected to make its financial support subject to conditions covering economic policy a capacity that has been outside the range of any western bank no matter how powerful. Considerations such as these could help to keep Poland's bankers contented, if not happy, at a time when many are suffering from pressure on their profits. The temptation of one or another bank to break ranks and declare the country in default would therefore be reduced.

In the view of many Western bankers, Poland

should approach the IMF with a view to obtaining technical assistance and financial discipline and not simply loans. This approach would undoubtedly be supported by Western governments.

While there is great sympathy for the Poles in their predicament, there is also considerable frustration at their apparent inability to put their own house in order. At a time of budgetary restraint in most Western countries, the result is a unwillingness to extend money to Poland.

Although in April, Poland's 15 leading Western creditor countries said that they hoped that the banks would quickly agree their example in rescheduling that part of Poland's debt falling due this year, as the months wore on Western financial and monetary officials began to see the danger of the commercial debt rescheduling proceedings taking a more tortuous course.

It was feared that other sovereign debtors — particularly in the eastern block — were queuing up with requests for rescheduling and new loans and would have pushed them forwards if the Poles were seen to obtain a favourable deal.

Romania is a member of the IMF, but this has not prevented the introduction of flour and bread rationing and the cancellation of industrial orders in the West as the authorities in Bucharest struggle to manage overall hard currency indebtedness of about \$10,000m, of which \$5,800m are owed to western banks.

The cases of Poland and Romania have put another IMF member country into a state of extreme alarm. With a foreign debt of \$18,000m Yugoslavia has been doing its best to reassure western creditors that it is not a comparable case.

Partly because of the hard line taken by Poland's western bankers and the problems encountered by Romania and Yugoslavia, one of their credit worthiness was called into doubt, other "problem" countries have redoubled their efforts to service their foreign debt promptly.

The IMF's approach to the Polish debt should reinforce this spirit of financial rectitude and help to smooth the way for the next round of debt negotiations between the Poles and their bankers in January.

Peter Norman



Old and new, rich and poor in India.

Photographed by Sophie Taylor

## India: energy a high priority

New Delhi

The record \$5,800m (£3,000m) loan to India approved by the International Monetary Fund is a welcome injection of money into the economy. For some time New Delhi has been feeling the burden of ever-increasing oil prices and its heavy yearly fuel bill, the equivalent of nearly £1,500m, has been upsetting the balance of payments. The trade gap is nearly £3,000m and the government is likely to divert part of the loan to fill the gap. Since the oil purchases are a drain on India's foreign exchange resources, New Delhi proposes to spend the loan chiefly on oil exploration. The proposal is to support machinery and rigs for exploration and drilling and areas like Assam and the Godavari Basin have been selected for this purpose. The production from Bombay High is likely to be increased. The loan is for the import of crude oil by \$600m in a year.

Part of loan is to be earmarked for two big thermal power plants, one of them near the Korba coalfield in Madhya Pradesh. A few more power stations are also planned and since India's public sector undertakings, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited and National Thermal Power Corporation, are behind the construction of power plants, the government proposes to import some of them.

In fact, Mr Ghani Khan Chaudhry, the energy minister, said a few days ago that India would be forced to import power equipment.

Since India proposes a big increase in agricultural production — it imported five million tonnes of food grains from America this year — a sizable part of the loan is likely to be spent in this field. The agriculture ministry officials say that they have already put up the proposals "which involve foreign exchange".

Mr R Venkataraman, India's finance minister, has said that the loan would give "a boost to the economy" and would help in overcoming the strain on the balance of payments.

Finance Ministry officials have said that it would be possible for the government to allocate funds to essential projects in the six five-year plan.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, MP, Mrs Gandhi's son, also gave an indication how the loan would be used. He told foreign press representatives that the loan would be used to bring down prices, "and we want to set up core industries for which we require foreign exchange".

It is true that the loan will help India's economy, which is beginning to show strains because of the paucity of foreign exchange, and plans are already there for using it. But the military top brass is also waiting for the loan and have their shopping lists ready.

IMF officials will keep an eye on how the loan is spent and there is no question of the loan being diverted for armaments. But if the bill for development is partly met by a foreign loan the pressure on India's own resources will lessen to that extent. The deal for the 50 Mirage aircraft

which Mrs Gandhi proposes to sign in Paris in the next few days may come from India's own earnings or from a loan by France, but the money is from the same kitty.

India sees the loan as a tactical victory, because it was expecting America to lay down stiffer conditions, but instead has preferred to abstain. A finance ministry official commented "our be-

Gandhi's critics in the last few months. The government will have to do much explaining and the parliamentary session beginning on November 23 will see the opposition crossing swords with Treasury ministers on the loan.

The Communists, particularly, believe that the Government has "sold the country" in accepting "harsh terms" for the loan and they believe that America must have exacted its pound of flesh. Their suspicion is that the Indian public sector will be diluted in favour of the private sector and that foreign capital will begin to play a dominant role in the country's future development.

The devaluation of the rupee has been ruled out because of its political implications and also because of the external value of the rupee to a basket of currencies which virtually gives it a floating exchange rate.

The Government is silent on what conditions it has accepted. Its contention is that it wanted "to correct that balance of payments" and has got the loan to do so. "No condition which is derogatory to the country has been accepted," officials say.

### AGNEW

#### THOMAS HOLLOWAY

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## INGALLS INDUSTRIES LIMITED

	1981	1980
Group turnover	£'000	£'000
Profit before tax	4,459	4,899
Earnings per 10p share	3.46p	3.71p
Dividends per 10p share	2.50p	2.27p

\* At the present time, all companies are operating satisfactorily with the single exception of Ingalls Engineers Limited, whose lack of production continues to cause concern in line with many similar companies in the West Midlands. There are no clear signs at present of any improvement in demand. This company is a highly efficient and well equipped unit capable of making a substantial profit under more normal trading conditions.

\* We are constantly considering ways of expanding our traditional business and improving the profitability of the group.

### GROUP SUBSIDIARIES

Engineering Division	Taylor & Osborne — Birmingham
Ingalls Engineers — Wiltshire	
Furnace Division	Joseph Tomlinson & Sons — Sheffield
W. English & Son — London	Thompsons (Funeral Furnishers) —
A. Hazel & Sons — Birmingham	Liverpool & Bristol
Priestley & Cockett — Lincoln	
J. Kynaston — Newton-le-Willows	John Sankay — Leigh

The above are extracts from the statement by the Chairman Mr. H. Marston Riley. Copies of the full report can be obtained from the Secretary, 206 Bradford Street, Birmingham B12 0RH.

## Business Diary: Be thankful for small Mercians

The Midlands is no longer the home of small "backyard" businesses it once was, the region's industrial base having been seriously eroded during this recession.

However, a group of Birmingham-based businessmen and professionals have come up with something called the Mercia Venture Capital Scheme which may help put some bounce back into their area.

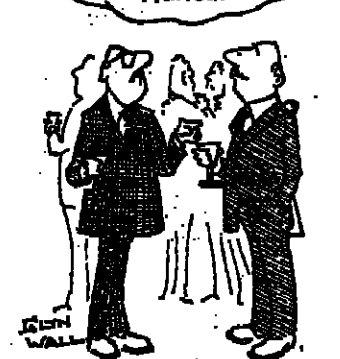
The fiscal climate for the scheme, which aims to match high tax bracket investors with ambitious small businesses, could hardly be better, the employers national insurance surcharge notwithstanding. Under the chairmanship of Jim Hearnshaw, an entrepreneurial accountant with an impressive track record in Midlands industry, his company, C&M (Capital & Management), is running the Mercia scheme to take full advantage of the Government's small business start-up scheme which allows wealthy investors to make annual tax-relieved investments of up to £10,000.

"We'll need the funds by the end of November if we're to invest them in time for the end of the tax year and if investors are to get full tax relief," says Hearnshaw.

### OECD's Poets

There could hardly be a less propitious moment for the imposingly named Rutherford M. Poets ("Rud" to his friends) to take over the chairmanship of the Development Assistance Committee — one of the key committees of the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). The "M", by the way, stands for "Mell", his mother's maiden name.

"Happy Retirement Mr. PRINGLE!"



"Well, yes, old chap. With all the redundancy redundancies and early retirement packages, the business is in a gold watch."

The committee seeks to coordinate the foreign aid activities of the 17 richest industrial nations. The new chairman, who succeeds an academic, John Lewis, has the job of trying to promote the cause of Third World economic development at a time of increasing "aid weariness".

Rud Poets will be the sixth chairman of the DAC since it was established in 1961. All have been Americans, as the United States foots the bill.

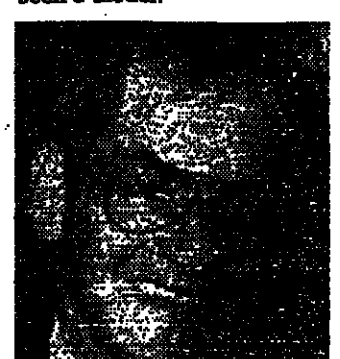
The Americans saw the committee as a way of prodding other rich countries into helping the developing world. In 1961, America gave 57 per cent of all western aid. Last year, it was little over a quarter. But now the United States has moved from being the most generous, to one of the most miserly, of nations.

Today, it is fifth from bottom among the 17 rich western aid donors (measuring aid as a proportion of national income). The Reagan Administration thinks that private enterprise should replace aid as the main method of promoting development. The question being asked by others on the Development Assistance Committee is to what degree the 50-year-old Rud Poets has been nominated by the Americans to espouse this cause.

### Marriage lines

Lisa Timoner (right), the wife of Eli Timoner (below), the Miami businessman who is president and chairman of Air Florida, told me yesterday that she was once offered a job by one of her husband's rivals, TWA.

"I was hired by TWA when I was a young girl as a stewardess and changed my mind just before going with them," she said. Mrs Timoner said she was then offered another job promising Catalina swimsuits which was more in her line, since before moving to Miami to escape the New York winters she had been a model.



Lisa Timoner yesterday. Until marrying 14 years ago, Mrs Timoner's only connexion with airlines was as a passenger, and indeed it was as a passenger that she was in London yesterday having accompanied her husband to an Air Florida board meeting here.

Timoner and board are here lobbying against a late connection with airlines was as a passenger, and indeed it was as a passenger that she was in London yesterday having accompanied her husband to an Air Florida board meeting here.

Timoner and board are here lobbying against a late connection with airlines was as a passenger, and indeed it was as a passenger that she was in London yesterday having accompanied her husband to an Air Florida board meeting here.

Meanwhile, he announced \$107m of new financing from United Kingdom and United States banks for the

use of seven Boeing 727 and 737 planes at "attractive rates".

### Down the hatch?

The Hon Ralph Mansfield fears that his life style is being impugned in the interests of business. He features as the author of monthly newsletters which the City wine merchants, Hatch, Mansfield, of which he is chairman, send to a mailing list of some 20,000 special customers.

The letters, detailing the firm's special offers, are written in a gossipy style, featuring such acquaintances as a butterfly-collecting parson, a miserly farmer friend, and the club wine bore, and Colonel Lepatrier of the French Foreign Legion, an old wartime colleague.

They are ghost written for him, Mansfield claims, by "our direct mail marketing guru".

Mansfield's mailbox now includes regular letters asking: "Do you really exist?"

Reader Mrs D. Phillips of Eastbourne tells me that her nephew, the Army officer just three weeks, complaining of "too many brusque walks".

Ross Davies

## Control Securities Limited

Latest results for the six months ended 30 September 1981

	Six Months to 30 September 1981	Six Months to 30 September 1980	Year Ended 31 March 1981
	UNAUDITED	UNAUDITED	AUDITED
Gross rental income	291,283	182,343	386,402
Other income	1,329,715	670,586	2,189,924
Turnover	1,531,298	858,929	2,576,326
Trading profit before taxation	544,019	278,403	635,690
Taxation	106,140	150	129,702
Profit after taxation	437,879	278,253	505,988
Extraordinary items	1,157	—	(1693)
Minority interests	439,036	278,253	505,295
	1,057	7,665	9,837
Profit for the period	437,979	278,258	495,458
Interim dividend	197,699	115,341	307,576
Basic earnings per share	3.48p	2.57p	4.63p
Fully diluted earnings per share	3.16p	2.25p	3.80p
Interim dividend	1.575p	1.05p	2.5p

The directors believe that profits for the current six months will be in line with those for the first half of the year.

In view of the group's improving profitability, the Board has decided to increase the interim dividend from 1.05p to 1.575p net per share, payable on 22nd January 1982 to shareholders on the register on 11th December 1981.

In accordance with our previously stated policy of expanding the capital base of the Group, it is our intention to capitalise a further proportion of reserve profits by making a bonus issue of shares on the basis of one Ordinary share of 10p for every three Ordinary shares held.

The Board expects to pay a final dividend not less than the interim dividend on the capital as increased by the bonus issue.







# Stock Exchange Prices

## Selling in gilts

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Nov 9, Dealings End, Nov 20. Counting Day, Nov 23 Settlement Day, Nov 30  
 \$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

1980/1 High Low Stock	1980/1 High Low Company	1980/1 High Low Company	1980/1 High Low Company	1980/1 High Low Company	1980/1 High Low Company	1980/1 High Low Company	1980/1 High Low Company	1980/1 High Low Company	1980/1 High Low Company
Price Ch/g's	Price Ch/g's	Price Ch/g's	Price Ch/g's	Price Ch/g's	Price Ch/g's	Price Ch/g's	Price Ch/g's	Price Ch/g's	Price Ch/g's
BRITISH FUNDS									
SHORTS									
LONGS									
COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN									
LOCAL AUTHORITIES									
DOLLAR STOCKS									
BANKS AND DISCOUNTS									
STERLING: Spot and Forward									
Money Market Rates									
Other Markets									
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## Football

## Greenwood picks his most trusted troops for England's final battle

By Stuart Jones

Ron Greenwood, the England manager, will today celebrate his sixtieth birthday quietly at home. Tomorrow, he takes the adopted family of 22 away to the serenity of the Hertfordshire countryside. By then, he will know the target has been set for England in their last World Cup qualifying match at Wembley next Wednesday, when they face Hungary, who are already through to next year's final.

Should Switzerland win or draw at home to Romania this evening, England will need only a draw against Hungary. If Romania win, England must then take both points to qualify from group four. Not surprisingly, Mr Greenwood picked the 15 who played in the 3-1 win over Hungary in Budapest in the summer when he announced his squad yesterday.

The only doubt concerns Watson, a 35-year-old in the late autumn of his career. Even though he has spent the last autumn of his career in the reserves, Mr Greenwood feels that a centre half of his experience will be needed on a night when nerves will be as taut as sharp strings.

Mr Greenwood said: "It is unfortunate that he is not in the Southampton team, but this game will call for all the qualities he has shown for England in the past. Having him in the squad gives me an opportunity to check his fitness. That will be the main consideration."

There is no doubt in my mind about his attitude and character. I have kept faith before with players who have not been showing their best form for their clubs. He has the character of players like Alan Ball and Emrys Hughes. I am sure if I called them back

to do a job, they would respond in the same way."

Buchanan gains preference over his Ipswich town colleague, Omas, who played at the back in the defeat in Norway. Well though Buchanan has performed this season, he has made only two full England appearances, and unless Watson proves unsuitable in training, it is unlikely that he will be asked to form an unfamiliar partnership with Thompson on such an important occasion.

Martin, a solid pillar alongside Bonds at West Ham United, is also picked, and Mr Greenwood conceded that the extra cover needed at the centre of the defence has cost Anderson, of Nottingham Forest, his place. "It is no reflection on him, and he is still part of our plans," he added.

Three players were omitted for three different reasons. Woodcock's club commitments with Cologne mean that he would not be able to join the party until Sunday night. Francis still has injury problems, and Barnes has failed to find his form. Mr Greenwood considered recalling Latchford but has opened the door instead to Morley and Goddard, both of whom impressed during an England XI's match at Highbury recently.

When Morley stood in Aston Villa's penalty area in East Germany last month, little did he realise that he was about to set off on a run that took him not only into a position to score what proved to be the winner against Dynamo Dresden in the European Cup, but also into international consideration for the first time.

Goddard, the scorer of 10 goals so far this season, was one of the players who have not been showing their best form for their clubs. He has the character of players like Alan Ball and Emrys Hughes. I am sure if I called them back

in the young Norwegian defence that had previously remained hidden from view.

Devonshire is another representative from the West Ham. Mr Greenwood's form club. Consistently outstanding, he took the burden of responsibility on his seemingly frail shoulders during the early part of the season when Brookings was absent. However, Brookings, the scorer of two goals in Hungary, is likely to be the only one of the West Ham four to be among the final XI.

There is no doubt that Mr Greenwood will keep as closely as possible to the side who lifted England's hopes in Hungary. The problem is that the Hungarians themselves have improved dramatically since their defeat in June. After picking up five points out of six, they are now certain to finish as winners of the group.

Whereas they were nervous and disorganised in Budapest, they will come here, relaxed and confident.

The squad is:

R. Clemens (Sunderland) 32, 34, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 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**Edited by Peter Dear**

**Radio 2**

### Radio 2

5.00 Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Suzannah Simons.† 12.00 John Dunn.† 2.00pm Ed Stewart with Family Favourites shared with Northern Ireland. 4.00 David Hamilton.† 5.45 News. 6.00 David Symonds.† 8.00 Alan Dale. 8.30 The Mitchell Menstrals.† 9.00 The Boston Pops.† 10.00 Animal Alphabet. 10.30 Hubert Gregg. 11.00 Brian Mathew.† from midnight. 1.00am Truckers' Hour.† 2.00-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

**Radio 1**

**Radio 1**  
5.00am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read.  
9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Dave Lee  
Travis. 2.00pm Paul Burnett. 3.30  
Shona Wright. 5.00 Peter Powell. 7.00  
Radio 1 Mailbag: Phone-in on 01-580  
4411. 8.00 David Jensen. 10.00 John  
Peel. † 12.00 Close.  
VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00am With  
Radio 2 10.00pm With Radio 1. 12.00-  
5.00am With Radio 2.

[illegible]

Elizabeth Bell: a reader in A Record of War (Radio 4 8.15pm)

## REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

## GRANADA

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Live from Two with Shelley Rohde. 2.45-3.45 Bracken. 5.15-6.45 Mickey, Donald and Friends. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25-6.30 This is Your Right. 12.35 am Closedown.

**4.15-4.20 Ask Os  
ssroads. 6.00 Rep**

**HTV CYMRU/WALES**  
As HTV West except: 12.00 pm-12.10

**ULSTER**

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30  
Lunchtime, 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City.  
(Cyril Cusack), 4.13-4.15 News, 5.15-  
5.45 Croseroads, 6.00-7.00 Good  
Evening Ulster, 12.35 am Bedtime.

**C**

## ed Guide

**WILFRED AND EILEEN (BBC 1 1.30 pm)** is a four-part love story by Jonathan Smith, based on facts. The story is about the love affair between his grandson who he taught at Tonbridge School, Staring Christopher Guard and Judi Bowker in the title roles, the story starts as a meeting at a Trinity May Ball, secretysts because both parents thought their child was too high-born for the other, the eventual registry office ceremony is a surprise, the marriage is blessing of the parents. The story becomes interesting when Wilfred Willett decides, in 1914, to halt his surgical studies and join the British Army in the Royal Grenadier Brigade in order to defend King and Country. His new wife is shocked, his tutor disappointed, his parents sad. A loveless opening episode and the couples later set it apart from the

conventional love story. There are some excellent supporting roles, notably Harold Innocent as Wilfred's father and Michael Aldridge who plays his tutor, Mr Jenkins.

• **A RECORD OF WAR** (Radio 4 8.15 pm) illustrates from a different angle the horrors of the First World War. Reminiscences of the war are told by a man who is not related through the eyes of men who physically endured battle or through those who guided the destinies of the fighting men from afar. Women, too, suffered heartbreak and loss and the programme looks at the Great War from a woman's point of view, as extracted from a new anthology of women's poetry and verse of the time, *Scar Upon My Heart* as well as Vera

readers are Elizabeth Bell, Annette Croobie and Anne Harvey.

● At 17.15 pm on the World Service there is another chance to hear the programme in a series of five programmes about BRITAIN'S DAILY NEWSPAPERS. I mention this because it is about *The Times*. Presented by Jenny Hargreaves, the programme deals with the different editorial aspects of the newspaper – and although the programme is not available on the radio, Charles Douglas-Horne, is interviewed as well as leader writer Geoffrey Smith, letters page editor, Leon Pileel, and obituaries overlord Colin Watson. Other dailies to come in the series are *The Guardian*, *The Mirror* and *The Morning Star*.

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## Classified Guide

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**Appointments** 22

addressed to:  
Box 7,  
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Brabazon Exhibition Mon.-  
50-5 30.

**W. J. HENDERSON**, The Continuing Quest in Abstract Art. Until September. Mon-Fri 10-5.30 Sat 12-5.30.

**SOUTH WALES HOUSE GAL.**  
7, 8b Strand, WC2. LORRI  
million of paintings—collage.

**W. H. PATTERSON**  
Recent Paintings By  
JOHN L. CHAMBERS  
511 N. Main St., 10am-6pm.  
Main Street LONDON W1A 3PA.

**DEE STUDIOS, 01-748 3354.**  
6 Der. Mon 12 Noon to 5 pm  
6 Sun. 12 Noon to 8 pm Three  
Artists: 25 Anniversary Exhib.  
JOHN L. CHAMBERS; TONY  
J. IAN CAUGHLIN

**SPINK GALLERY**  
51, St James's, London, SW1.  
7888.

**TRYON AND MOORLAND**  
ERY, 25-26 Cork St. W.1X  
(01-734 8961) Exhibitions

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